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LITERATURE

Revolutions in English History. By Robert Vaughan, D.D. Vol. II. *Revolutions in Religion.* (Parker & Co.)

Dr. Vaughan declares in his Preface, that he writes these 'Revolutions in English History' as an Englishman, without reference to the feelings of party or the interests of sect. This is true. Dr. Vaughan is first of all an Englishman. His pulses beat with English force; a sentiment of nationality underlies his character; his genius, whether in its weakness or in its strength, in its insularity and doggedness, no less than in its courage, openness, tenacity and aggressiveness, is wholly and intensely Anglo-Saxon. But it is no less true that Dr. Vaughan, one of the most prominent members of a great religious party in this State, a preacher and teacher of Independent views, ex-Principal of a College for the training of Independent ministers, a Doctor of Independent Divinity, and founder of the principal Independent literary organ in this country,—is something besides a mere English writer,—one of the twenty millions who might claim that title. As an historian, he brings to his task of investigation other ideas; and he uses his privilege of judgment with far higher responsibilities than a nameless professor of general English principles. To defend, to adorn, to propagate in our modern society the belief of which Cromwell was the force and Milton the light, is the business of his intellectual life. Such a mission—though it is clearly that of a partizan, though it implies the presence and sanctions the diffusion of sectarian views—is far from being a misfortune to Dr. Vaughan. Indeed, the fact gives a certain corporate importance to what he writes. It is always interesting to know the opinions of representative men. A statesman, lately dead, who watched the fluctuations of public opinion with the keenness of one who had held high office, and who hoped to hold the very highest, used to say, that in the club or the street he always listened to the opinion of Mr. Smith; for the Smiths were a very large family, and the opinion of one would probably be found the opinion of all. The man who speaks for the English Independents, speaks for a big and powerful body. Like a knight of the shire, Dr. Vaughan may represent, not a single judgment on the great controversies of our history, but the feelings and convictions of the multitude who stand at his back.

The Second Volume of his 'Revolutions in English History' deals with the religious question; and its narrative is confined within the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Mary, and Elizabeth. These four reigns witnessed the action, re-action, and eventual settlement of the theological and theocratic revolution. Dr. Vaughan traces the revolt against Rome, and against all that Rome represented in the Middle Ages, to its source in the corruption of the times, and in a very extraordinary degree to the special corruption of the Church. We think it has not been pointed out with sufficient force how completely the Reformation, though headed by a monk, was, in effect, a lay revolt against the unbearable tyranny, the scandalous immorality, of priestly rule. In a noble and virtuous state of society, the interests of the lay and clerical members are the same. Public order rests on the safe foundation of private morals; the Statutes of the Realm and the suggestions of the Scriptural Decalogue are at one; and thus the civil magistrate and the ordained priest find an equal satisfaction in

the order, regularity and purity of the people. Not so in a vicious state of society; for while the layman has no vested right in crime, the ecclesiastic finds a peculiar and fruitful profit for himself in sin. The magistrate, unless in the lowest and final stage of corruption, cannot sell impunity in crime; but the confessor may, and habitually does, in rich and corrupted, though still polite and flourishing communities, sell the right to indulge in sin. Leo at the Vatican was a type of the profligate ecclesiastic in every land; and Tetzels sale of indulgences—interpreted by the sinner as indulgences of the passions,—in other words, as a right to rob, to seduce and to kill—in the market-places of Germany, was but the brazen and public avowal of that which was done in every country where the monk held power, from the Baltic to the Red Sea. Indulgences were everywhere sold for the benefit of the Church. Absolution was sold. In the days of Leo, every sin had its price; and it was obviously not the interest of the ecclesiastical authorities in his pontificate either that sin should cease out of the land, or that a profitable area of taxation should be materially lessened. The more sins, the more fines.

Against a system which allowed the multiplication of offences, civil society, struggling for existence in the midst of all the elements of decay, resolutely set its face and used its strength. Seeing that the Church had become blind in its age and vice, Civil Society separated itself from the Church. The sign of the revolution everywhere became—not a schismatic sign, as some pretend to believe—but a lay sign. The first act of regeneration was to take power, not from the Roman Catholic, but from the Roman Catholic priest. Changes of doctrine came much later. But the very first signal to the world that England, long intent in secret on the restoration of her Church to the purity of early times, was the installation of a lay cabinet and a lay Chancellor—the disappearance of Wolsey, the substitution of Norfolk and More. When Henry met his Reformation Parliament, though still a zealous Catholic, "Defender of the Faith," he had but one ecclesiastic, Gardiner, in his immediate service. This change of persons was the true revolt of England from the Holy See; the further changes, dogmas, ceremonials, constitutions and the like, came mostly from abroad, and were of secondary virtue in the eyes of a great majority of the English race. The real Reformation in this country meant—Lay Government.

That this change from the monkish to the civil spirit—from the feudal to the modern forms of society—happened to be typified in the persons and fortunes of two celebrated women, is one of those felicities of history which enables the writer to lend to the discussion of sober and prosaic truth the charm of personal drama and the grace of a poetical romance. Catherine of Aragon represents an old world, Anne Boleyn a new. Call before the eye the figure of that Spanish lady, haughty, sad, ascetic, even in her earliest youth; more haughty, cold, unsmiling as she grew in years and declined in health; proud of her blood, her country, her religion; older than the King in years, and higher than the King in birth; child of a hundred Kings, daughter of Isabella the Catholic, sister and aunt of Kings and Emperors. How different from this saturnine, mournful figure the airy form of Anne Boleyn, with her laughing English eyes, her joyous, bounding temper, and her clinging, indiscreet, caressing love! Dr. Vaughan depicts Catherine and Henry in their wedded, but not pleasant life, in the royal palace:—

"In the love of literature, the king and queen possessed a taste in common; and there were times when Henry seemed to regard the piety of Catherine with a feeling of reverence. Her religion, however, was of a kind that would have qualified her for the head of a convent better than for the head of a court. She had entered the third order of St. Francis, and always wore the habit of that order under her queenly vestments. Saturday and Sunday were her fast-days, and on the vigils of the Virgin she took only bread and water. In the middle of the night she rose to repeat her prayers, and by five in the morning she left her chamber dressed for the day. Six hours every morning were spent in church, her knees bent for long intervals on the bare floor. Twice a week all her feelings and thoughts were unbosomed to her confessor. When dinner was over, two hours were given to reading the lives of the saints. On these occasions her maids were with her, to be edified by her reading, her counsel, and her example. What time remained was occupied with reading or prayer until the hour for supper, which was always a simple repast. So the day ended. Henry was a man of religious conviction and feeling; but a wide gulf separated between the queen's temperament and his own on that subject. In many other respects the divergence between them was great."

If such a woman as Queen Catherine, living in her own home this gloomy and conventual life, were wedded to a saint, one could barely hope for much domestic peace to fall in the way of her proud feet; and a charitable friend could only pray that she might find in her religious exercises the strength to dispense with a more material love. But Henry was no saint. He certainly was not, in his earlier years, the wicked wretch that popular historians make him in his later years. As regards the passions, he appears to have been, for his position and temptations, conspicuously pure. He had one natural son, no more; and we hear nothing of the bevy of beautiful and yielding women which brightened the chambers of his predecessors on the throne, and those of his contemporaries on foreign thrones. But, though it is impossible to withhold from Henry the praise of abstinence from pleasures within his reach—pleasures tempting to the flesh of all true sons of Adam, in his case easy to procure and to condone,—it is equally clear that he was not so blind to beauty as always to pass it by without a pang, and not so dead to the affections as not to pine for human love. For twenty years he was faithful to the nun who occupied the place of his wife. As a wife, Catherine had been dead to him for years ere he first set eyes on Anne Boleyn. Yet he does not seem to have filled her place by any of the lovely women who graced his court. He kept his heart true to the spectral devotee. There is no ground for the assumption that Anne Boleyn's "gospel eyes" suggested to the King his first doubt of the lawfulness of his marriage with his brother Arthur's widow. Dr. Vaughan, who in all this part of his labour mainly agrees with Mr. Froude, giving good reason for the agreement, puts the matter in a clear light.—

"In the spring of 1527 negotiations were in process for a marriage of the princess Mary, either with Francis or with his son, the duke of Orleans. In the course of the deliberations on that subject, the bishop of Tarbes, on the part of France, suggested that probably, from the nature of the marriage between Henry and Catherine, the legitimacy of Mary might some day be questioned. Was it lawful for a man to marry his brother's widow? This, it is alleged, was the first mention of distrust on this ground, and the bishop is supposed to have spoken to this effect under the prompting of Wolsey. It is certain that Henry always declared that the scruples now felt on this point had not originated with himself, but had been called into existence by the opinions of learned men."

These circumstances are, however, generally ignored by the partisan writers. Roman Catholic historians, who miss the real point and true sign of the Reformation, make that vast revolution of the lay society turn exclusively on this personal question of who should be Henry's wife. Dr. Vaughan sums up the popular story thus:—

"The Romanist version is very simple, and may be stated in few words. Henry's guilty passion for Anne Boleyn was not to be gratified except on condition of making her his wife. So strong did this passion become, that, in the end, no opposition to it was to be tolerated. To this feeling, and this feeling alone, we owe the project of a divorce, Henry's second marriage, and the great ecclesiastical changes which followed. But this is a one-sided representation, and by no means satisfactory. There were sagacious Catholics in those days who could not accept such statements as reasonable—who, in fact, looked upon them as absurd. Two papal legates, who had examined the case in England, on writing to the pope, describe it as nothing less than madness to imagine that the king of England should do as he was doing merely on the ground of preferring one woman to another. The manners of the queen, they admit, may have been rigid and gloomy; but no man, they affirm, could believe the king 'to be of so weak a disposition as to allow himself to be led by mere sensual attraction to dissolve a relationship in which the flower of his age had been passed without a blemish [persanct], and in which he had borne himself, through the present change, so reverently and honourably.' There are three points included in this case which deserve the attention of the reader: First, the suspicion as diffused at this time touching the validity of the marriage between Henry and Catherine, did not originate with the king; secondly, the man who, according to the best evidence, had been the first to suggest the doubt which now began to be felt on this subject, was Wolsey; and, thirdly, the notion of a second marriage had been entertained, and proceedings had taken place in relation to it, before the name of Anne Boleyn is mentioned. Some eighteen months before that time, while Anne was in Paris, and unknown in the English court, Henry, according to contemporary writers, was contemplating a divorce, and began to look towards Margaret, the accomplished duchess of Alençon, sister of Francis the First, as his future queen. In this stage of the affair nothing was said about the marriage between Henry and Catherine as having been from the beginning unlawful. Other grounds were alleged. But Margaret was one of those ladies who adorned the times of the Reformation by their ardent love of letters, and by their deep religious principle. According to the language attributed to her, she could not consent to ascend the throne of England at the cost of breaking the heart of the woman who would be displaced by her so doing. Margaret soon afterwards married the king of Navarre."

Lingard and the older Romanist writers treat this question of divorce from Catherine in a way not creditable to their honesty. They affect to consider the King's doubt a fraud, and his application to the Holy Chair as an impertinence. Yet it is perfectly certain, and they themselves admit, that Pope Clement gave power to Wolsey to annul the marriage with Catherine, and signed a dispensation for the King to marry Anne Boleyn. "The Cardinal prepared four documents, which the Pope was required to sign. The first declared the existing marriage void if that with Arthur had been consummated; the second commissioned Wolsey to examine and decide concerning that fact in England; the third granted Henry a dispensation to marry again; the fourth bound His Holiness against annulling any one of the above instruments under any circumstances. Before these documents were submitted to Clement at Orvieto, the Pontiff had bound himself to Charles in Rome not to do anything in relation to the contemplated divorce without his knowledge. Nevertheless, His Holiness was now

induced to sign all these instruments, but with the understanding that his having so done should be a secret until the check given to the Imperialists by the allies should be such as to allow of his acknowledging his acts without danger." These acts of Clement, though they did not settle the affair in contemporary politics, ought to settle a main part of the historical controversy. The moment the dispensation to marry again was signed, Henry, as a good Catholic, might have secretly taken Anne to wife; and no Pole, Parsons, or Lingard, would have been able to say one word against this royal pact. But Henry at that time wished to have everything open. He wanted to marry Anne in public; and the state of Italian affairs would not allow Clement to annoy the King of Spain. The Pope assented in secret, but dissented in public. Indeed, the case became one of perfectly vulgar and prosaic politics, turning less on the opinions of doctors and lawyers than on the success of generals in the field.

In the negotiations which eddied with the incidents of the French and Italian campaign—which became favourable to Henry when the French arms prevailed over the Imperial, and favourable to Catherine when the oriflamme went down before the flag of Leon and Castile—our mournfullest sympathy is given to the proud and harassed alien lady, whose life had been disgraced, and whose daughter bastardized, by these questionings of the validity of her marriage. If she had not been a lawful wife, what had she been? The very thought must have been to her worse than death. To her, religion was a dreadful thing—sin, the destruction of her soul. Had she been all these years committing mortal sin—and of mortal sins the most horrid and appalling—not alone fornication, but incest? To accept the award of Wolsey or Clement was to admit this matchless horror to herself and to all the world. Who can wonder that the miserable lady clung with an obstinacy never to be overcome or even weakened by the wiles of crafty men to the validity of her contract with the King? She would do nothing but resist and storm. She would not lower her tone; for in defiance and rejection of all offers, all compromises, all concessions, lay her only strength. Sometimes her propositions became almost ludicrous from the vehemence of their protest. Some one, probably by Wolsey's means, suggested to her a voluntary separation,—in fact, that she should go into a convent. She answered that she was ready to go into a convent and to take the vows of chastity—if Henry would do the same. When pressed still more, she declared to the Pope that she had never been Prince Arthur's wife, as the marriage had never been consummated—though the fact that her first nuptials had been duly fulfilled had not before been brought into question.

We will not follow this celebrated case into further detail. Dr. Vaughan repeats the whole story, and with a leaning towards Henry in these transactions stronger than we remember to have seen before in any divine of the Nonconformist school. Towards Anne Boleyn he is also generally fair, avoiding the extremes of laudation and vituperation. The following passage presents the young English rival of the gloomy Spanish princess in very fair terms:—

"It has been the misfortune of Anne Boleyn, not only to have been calumniated with the utmost imaginable licence by her enemies, but to have been praised also, with little discrimination, by her friends. It is not just, however, to the memory of this ill-fated woman to describe the court of Paris as the most dissolute in Europe, and then to intimate that Anne Boleyn was exposed wholly without protection to the influence of such dissolute-

ness. It may be doubted if the French court was really more depraved at that time than some others; and we feel sure, that it would have been hard to find another where the daughter of a gentleman would have been, on the whole, in circumstances more favourable to character than were those in which Anne Boleyn passed her early years. Had her conduct been open to any grave censure at that time, would she have remained so long near the person of the 'good queen'? Would the intelligent and pious duchess of Alençon have become so readily her friend? Would the grave Catherine of England, whose religion always took the gloom of the convent along with it, have received her at once into her family on her return to this country? So far, then, we see no ground for unfavourable conclusions in regard to the character of Anne Boleyn. The duchess of Alençon became queen of Navarre early in 1527. In February of that year Anne Boleyn returned to England. Her natural capacity had enabled her to avail herself of the advantages to be derived from the best society in Paris. She was musical, and excelled in all the accomplishments to have been expected in a person of her position. She read Latin, knew much of what had been done by men of letters in her time, and was by no means unacquainted with the 'new learning.' All these acquisitions contributed to render a person of great beauty eminently attractive. That such a woman, now in the flower of her youth, should have admirers was inevitable; and it would have been strange if the court gossip in relation to her had never verged upon court scandal. Cavendish relates a story which seems to show that a love affair had taken place between her and the young lord Percy, son of the earl of Northumberland; but we do not know that any pledge or contract had passed between them. That nobleman declared more than once, and upon oath, that nothing of that nature had existed. In fact, lord Percy was engaged at the time, or soon afterwards, to the lady whom he married. Sir Thomas Wyatt, the poet, appears to have been charmed by the person and manners of the court beauty, and was, perhaps, allowed to demean himself more freely in her presence, from his being a married man, than would otherwise have been tolerated. But the character of Anne Boleyn is not affected by anything known to have happened in that intercourse. Such had been the history of this lady to the time when Henry declared himself to her as her lover. Anne supposed, as she well might, that the king's intention in so addressing her was to secure her as a mistress, and she is described as expressing herself with the feeling of a high-born and virtuous woman. Of what passed between them for some while after we are ignorant. We know, however, that Anne withdrew from the court, much against the wishes of the king. We know, also, that some six or seven months later, Henry addressed letters to her, expressing his affection towards her in earnest and, for the most part, respectful language. It is manifest, moreover, from the letters written at that time, that down to the close of this interval Anne had not responded to these expressions of attachment in a manner to satisfy the king that his feeling was reciprocated. When something more in accordance with his wishes reached him, it was in a form which bespoke the apprehensions that had been the cause of this hesitancy, and which even then had not wholly passed away. Anne sent him a picture, in which a female was seen alone in a vessel, the ship being in great danger from a storm. Henry was greatly delighted with this present, and with the 'sweet words' of the letter which accompanied it. 'Henceforth,' he writes, 'my heart shall be devoted 'to you alone.' All thought of a match for the king from any continental court had now died away. The divorce question was publicly broached. The pope was said to have promised his sanction of that measure. Perhaps Anne Boleyn might be excused in concluding that the moral propriety of the divorce, and of her own marriage with Henry, had been thus placed beyond doubt. Such was the common faith in the dispensing power of the pope in those times. To such a woman, moreover, at such an age, the prospect of a crown may be supposed to have been inexpressibly fascinating. She may also have persuaded herself

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that the future tranquillity, and, it may be, the future religion, of the country, would be much influenced by a course of affairs so unexpected to herself, and so startling to the world. But when all possible allowance has been made in her favour, we feel bound to regard the conduct of Anne towards Catherine as inconsistent with pure womanly feeling, or with high principle. Until sentence on the divorce should be pronounced, Catherine was not only her mistress, but the wife of the king, and the queen of England. Her acceptance of such overtures from the king, in such circumstances, is the first known fault in the history of Anne Boleyn. It was a grave one, and it was natural that it should be followed by others."

It is ridiculous to write of this devotion of the King to Anne Boleyn as a mere sensual and transient passion. In the history of love, there are few cases in which an attachment has lived through such a crowd of obstacles or endured ungratified through such a length of time. Henry waited for Anne nearly six years. He was not a boy, who might serve seven years for his Rachel, and hope to wear her for another seven years of burning youth. He was nearing middle age, the time when passion must be most sincere if it be content to wait. Under such circumstances his patience amounts to a proof of virtue, and we have no right to disbelieve him when he says that a desire to change one woman for another, as his Queen would never have tempted him to take one step towards procuring a divorce from Catherine of Arragon.

Dr. Vaughan goes over the whole range of topics, legal, ecclesiastical, social and parliamentary, connected with the change of religion, and in a masculine, vigorous style reports to us his views and philosophies of English history. His book will be a permanent honour to the Nonconformist library.

The English, London, and England.—[*Les Anglais, Londres, et l'Angleterre*, par L. T. Larcher; avec une Introduction par Emile de Girardin]. (Paris, Dentu; London, Nutt.)

The ignorance of the French as to the manners and customs of England is proverbial, and at different periods books have been published on this country by French authors wherein as much reliance may be placed as in the fiction of Peter Wilkins. We doubt, however, if anything so absurd as '*Les Anglais, Londres*,' &c. has ever before been issued from the Paris press. Such a work would probably have passed unnoticed had not M. Larcher, an author not known in England, taken care to preface his book with an Introduction by M. Emile de Girardin, who states "that the English language not being very familiar in France, his countrymen may amuse, and at the same time instruct, themselves by studying England and the English in these pages, to which he gives his cordial approval."

If there be one word of truth in the pictures here presented, it is not surprising that a nation so highly moral as France should refuse her sympathy to England. A virtuous Frenchman could not be expected to look upon our social habits and our morals otherwise than with horror and dismay.

At page 27, the author describes the manners of Englishmen, young and old, in language which we have too much self-respect to translate, and which could only have been penned by a French writer. Some of the assertions are so droll that one cannot help laughing outright at the formal and sententious way in which they are uttered. For instance, in delineating the customs of good society (*la bonne société*), the author observes, "At a dinner-party the ladies retire into another room,

after having partaken very moderately of wine, and while the gentlemen are left to empty bottles of Port, Madeira, Claret and Champagne, it is a constant habit among the ladies to empty bottles of brandy (*des bouteilles de Cognac*). To confirm this statement, our Solon quotes from a work of General Pillet:—"Towards forty years of age every well-bred English lady (*toute femme Anglaise comme il faut*) goes to bed intoxicated." When these are supposed to be the manners of good society, we may imagine in what terms the author speaks of the *réunions* at Cremorne and at the Surrey Gardens.

As to the Fine Arts, England of course is not permitted to possess an atom of taste for them. After explaining the qualities necessary for the appreciation of the Beautiful, M. Larcher proceeds to say—"The English are by nature averse to contemplation—they only care for roast beef, porter and spirits, whereas it is essential to have that *je ne sais quoi* which we call grace, feeling, of which an Englishman has not the remotest conception; his climate, his coarse food and his black drink are utterly opposed to any mental refinement—in fact, to possess taste, it is necessary to possess a soul, and a large soul—and the English possess nothing but appetite."

We learn further from our author, supported by M. Emile de Girardin, that the Englishman is naturally ferocious. We quote:

A Frenchman and a man of letters, a poet moreover and an artist, has, during his travels in Spain, become so enamoured of the marvellous beauty of the bull-fights that he loses no opportunity of suggesting that a similar spectacle should be established in Paris for the amusement of the people. Happily his suggestion remains unseconded, and we sincerely hope that this absurd idea may lie stagnant in the columns of the newspaper which has ventured to circulate it. But if this amateur of bloody combats insists upon making the world better acquainted with these barbarous sights, let him address himself to the English. In that country his wishes will find an echo,—for there, we repeat, the horrible is liked, the hideous is adored. "An Englishman," says a French chronicler, "requires to see his fellow-creatures in danger in order to experience any emotion. Lions, tigers and hyenas took at first immensely, but when it was found that Carter and Van Amburgh escaped unhurt, the exhibition was deserted. The young girl who, two years ago, was devoured in presence of a full house at Astley's Theatre obtained a great success. During a whole fortnight she was the sole subject of conversation in social circles and at the clubs. Those who had been so fortunate as to witness this extraordinary scene were heartily envied by their less fortunate brethren. To hear the bones of a poor girl crunched by a tiger! what a delicious excitement! I am certain that the day is not far distant when this aristocracy, worn out with ennui, will need such representations as men combating with wild beasts. Even now (April, 1851) a society of capitalists is talked of for establishing a circus where men may wrestle with ferocious bears."

In statistics our learned friends seem to be as well informed as they are in respect to manners and customs. What are we to think of fifteen millions of the English population being compelled to live on the alms of the other fifteen millions! But so it is. ("*Il y a plus de la moitié de la population qui est obligée de faire l'aumône à l'autre.*") The ragged peasantry of many parts of France, well known to English travellers, will shudder when they read of such a state of poverty and degradation, and will, doubtless, congratulate themselves that they live under the paternal government of Napoleon the Third! But as among the French peasantry, not one man in ten knows how to read, the people may be incapable of

benefiting by the valuable information which M. Larcher intends to convey. The French army, however, and the educated classes will feel an honest indignation, and exclaim that such a state of barbarism ought not to be tolerated.

Examining with the same depth, accuracy and impartiality all that constitutes society and social institutions in England, and especially in London, public and private amusements, the system of taxation, food, the police, &c., this author has succeeded in accumulating a larger amount of absurdity and nonsense than we ever happen to have seen collected in a work of 300 pages purporting to describe a people.

However harmless such rubbish may be in a general point of view, it involves a moral evil. It is impossible for a Frenchman who reads it not to feel a deep aversion towards a civilized nation imbued with such characteristics, and consequently it cannot fail to encourage an unfriendly feeling between the two countries. If the French travelled more than they do, a short experience would undeceive them; but unfortunately there is not a more imitative race (*race moutonnaire*, as Montaigne says of his compatriots) than the Parisians, and when they can back their opinions with a name of any literary weight they consider them incontrovertible. For this reason, a work like the one before us is likely to do as much moral harm as the Treaty of Commerce can do material good.

We cannot refrain from expressing our surprise and regret that M. Emile de Girardin should have lent his name to anything so false in fact and so objectionable in style as this production from the French press.

The Honey Bee; its Natural History, Habits, Anatomy, and Microscopical Beauties. With Tinted Illustrations. By James Samuelson, assisted by Dr. J. B. Hicks. Also, *Two Chapters on Instinct and Reason*. (Van Voorst.)

FROM the hour when we sing in the nursery the familiar song of 'The Little Busy Bee' to the end of life this interesting insect continues to be the theme of the poet, the type of the political economist, and the study of the entomologist. It may have been flying about the world long before man walked upon it. It may have made early honey from the flowers of Eden, and it may have hymned its musical murmur in that grand pean which Adam heard ascending from universal creation. It may have escaped the curse of evil, never tasting a root of bitterness, shunning all that is injurious to its nature, and affording to suffering and sorrowing humanity a rare and enviable example of undisturbed felicity. What other creature is there in all this animated world that knows no outward change save that of the seasons, and no movement save from flower to flower;—that finds its work upon the roving wing, its hostelry within the foldings of flowers, its nutriment in the sweetest of substances, its delight in increasing industry, its chosen pathway along the sunbeams, its companions like-minded and light-winged, its body ready armed for self-defence, and for inflicting vengeance upon invaders, and its convenient home under the dome of a well-compacted hive, where all is ordered by good governance, and where the fruit of industry is stored up without waste, undamaged and undiminished? Truly, the bee seems to be the happiest and the most fortunate of creatures—the envy as well as the exemplar of man.

If we look into the hive itself, and study the economy of its inhabitants, we there discover a

system so perfect and admirable, that man's more complex societies, exposed to the turbulence of passion and the perplexities of conflicting interests, seem to suffer by comparison. The bees appear to have arrived at once, and by instinctive subordination and co-operation, at a state which it has taken man centuries to attain. They are born to order, and each to its appropriate duty; man only grows into order, and reluctantly submits to labour. The result of man's long history is the ready-made policy of the bees. In the history of the human race we can but trace the slow and often baffled advance of all that is good and well ordered. We look back afar to the primitive pair and their descendants, and discern through the obscurities of time the tillers of the soil, their patient sowing and reaping, laborious artificers, rude dwellings, hardly-won provisions, mighty hunters and mighty warriors, cities built, attacked and defended, or destroyed. Then luxury relaxes and abundance enervates. The human *drones* appear as well as the *workers*, the industrious labourers and the idle consumers hive together. Late in the ages we come to good government and good citizenship, to willing workers and wise rulers; later still, to superabundance of inhabitants and excess of population; and last of all, nearly to our own day, before the overabounding peoples begin to swarm forth and fly away to found new homes and make honey out of foreign flowers.

But all this we discover in the bee-hive at once. This is not the result of education, for no bee has ever yet been found who became wiser than his parent bee, nor one who is the better for slow-growing civilization, or the worse for the deteriorating example of drones. In the hive evil communications do not corrupt good manners, nor has the most unctuous exemplar of honey-making industry ever converted a drone into a worker. What there was at first there is now—nothing less and nothing more. In a complete community of bees there is the *Queen*, the monarch and mother of the hive, a perfectly developed female; there are *drones*, or males, to the number of from 600 to 800, and there are *workers*, or partially developed females, to the number of from 15,000 to 30,000. The office of the queen bee is to lay all the eggs that are hatched in the hive, and she does nothing but add to its numbers. Yet she is constitutional head of all who hum and crawl within, and should she be accidentally or designedly removed, one of the royal family on the way from larva-hood is raised to the throne, apparently without an intermediate regency. If there be no bee of the blood, the constitutional bees, duly impressed with the horrors of anarchy, proceed by a wonderful instinct and a remarkable artificial contrivance, to *force*, as it were, or plant a fresh head for the apian state. They proceed to a cell containing a worker-egg not yet hatched, or, more singularly still, a larva not more than three days old (the time when, under ordinary circumstances, its food would be changed), and they at once alter the conditions of its early existence, so as to convert it into a queen. This they effect by enlarging the worker-cell at the cost of the destruction of the surrounding ones, by slaughtering the inmates without mercy, and then by the union of horizontal cells previously destroyed, they form a single *vertical* cradle, in which is ensconced the heiress apparent, or, rather, the reigning as well as rocking infant. They continue liberally to feed the young larva upon royal paste during the whole of the first period of her life, and to treat her in every respect as the heiress to the throne, to which

she ascends in due time, amidst, we may suppose, the humming approbation of the whole hive. There is hardly anything so astonishing as this in the whole history of hive life, but it is avouched by reliable observers.

But let us take bee history in its ordinary course,—when there is no enforced and accelerated succession to the throne. The duty of the queen, as we have remarked, is to lay eggs. During her progress from cell to cell for the purpose of oviposition, she is accompanied by from four to twelve workers, who provide her with honey, and who, watching all her movements, take care that she lays only one egg in each cell. Should she deposit more, they remove all but one, and place them elsewhere. Usually she lays from two to six eggs in succession and then rests awhile, and can thus deposit about 200 eggs in one day. The total number laid by a single queen in one season is variously estimated at from 50,000 to 100,000 eggs. Suppose the spring to be somewhat advanced, and that in the month of May the queen has deposited from 10,000 to 11,000 eggs, consisting of worker and drone eggs, then the workers construct half-a-dozen royal cells, and her majesty forthwith proceeds to deposit in them the necessary eggs.

The usual term of sixteen days having expired, the guardians of one of the royal cells receive intimation, by the movement within, that a new monarch is about to make her appearance. Swiftly the intelligence flies from bee to bee, and swiftly they crowd around the cell to welcome the royal stranger. The queen-mother also approaches, accompanied by her body-guard. Here, as faithful historians of the hive, we record a painful passage, which destroys illusions of human affection in these humble creatures. The queen-mother does not come to salute her infant, but, sad to say, to slay her. In this unmotherly and murderous purpose she is foiled by the workers who have gathered round the royal cell. They cover its entrance, imprison the young queen from her mother, and, if necessary, block up the opening of the cell with wax until the old queen retires, feeding the young one with honey during her imprisonment. Have, then, malice, hatred and all uncharitableness really crept into the hive, and found their lodgment in a mother's breast?

The fact is, that in the bee-hive, as well as in the hives of humanity, two *Cæsars* cannot reign at one time. Victor Emmanuel and Garibaldi cannot reign together in Italian hearts; therefore Garibaldi must be waxed-up in his cell at Caprera, and is wise enough to know it, although probably he has not learnt this lore from the hive. To return to bees, the malice of the old queen does not subside. When she finds that her offspring and her rival is beyond her reach, she wanders about the hive in a state of great excitement, and ceases to oviposit. Good often issues from the jealousies and dark passions of men, and it certainly does from the same in the queen-bee. She does not wish to be a mere queen-dowager; she will be queen-regnant; and as there cannot be two *Czarinas* in one hive, there must needs be a departure of one. The waxed-up and well-fed juvenile knows better than to quit her cell; but her mother has made a fool of herself, and has not made food of her daughter. Therefore, it is expedient that the royal mother should quit the kingdom. She quits at once, accompanied, if in a full hive, by about one thousand drones, who are said to lead the way, and ten thousand workers. They are possessed by a spirit of migration,—men know that they are about to swarm, and are ready with an empty hive, which, like an Australia or a New Zealand, is free to the immigrants, who lose

no time in fruitless regrets and lingering looks behind, but at once proceed to construct waxen cells and pursue their proper avocations, whilst the queen resumes her work of oviposition. So singularly are new bee-hives tenanted, so curiously are the strange events in the old hive made to conduce to the colonization of the new.

But is all peaceable within after this emigration from the old home? Look into it for a few minutes and behold. The young queen so watchfully preserved is but a chip of the old block. Mercy ought to distinguish her, but she has murder in her thoughts. To render her reign doubly sure, she proceeds, as soon as she can walk alone, to the cells that contain her younger sisters, and, with a barbarity worthy of her bee-mother, she stings them all to death. There must, it seems, be undisputed sovereignty in the hive, and it is secured at the cost of many lives. Do you reproach the queen mother and the queen daughter? Could they read human history, would they not fling back the reproach, weighted with a few parallel passages?

It may happen, in the course of events, that two young queens make their exit from their respective cells simultaneously. This seems to overawe the old queen, who is diverted from her purpose of infanticide, and at once takes her departure with her attendant swarm. Now it might seem that all would be innocence and industry. You forget, then, that there are two young queens together,—a case about as bad as two of different ages. The difference lies between fear and jealousy. Again there cannot be two *Czarinas*. How shall this be settled? Neither will go out, or give way, or remain quiet. There is nothing for it, then, but to fight. Amongst mankind the people fight and the sovereigns look on, but amongst bees the sovereigns fight and the people look on. Were it so with us, wars would soon cease to the end of the earth. But we must keep to the bees and their battles. Those that remain after the swarm, divide into two parties, which respectively marshal themselves round their queens, and make the bottom of the hive the field of battle.

Look, now, at the armies as they approach to face one another but not to fight. Single combat between the sovereigns is the order of the day, and the assembled armies are merely interested spectators, with their forelegs drawn beneath the body. The rival sovereigns advance and fall upon each other with ungovernable fury. They seize each other with their jaws by the neck, head and legs. By rapid vibrations of their wings they endeavour to confound one another. They butt their heads together, they grasp firmly with their legs, and seek by every art and sleight to sting each other. They unsheath their stings like swords, and strive to reach the vulnerable parts between the rings of the body, at the neck, or the constricted part that connects the chest and the abdomen. This is mortal duel—deadly sword-play. Not a spectator puts forth his leg. A general hum attests the excitement, or, perhaps, a general stillness. At length the fatal thrust is given, the sword penetrates between the rings and enters the vital parts. It is now that the pierced one shrinks back, staggers and falls, and, after one or two convulsive throbs, closes her eyes for ever.

And what eyes are these! Men never knew what the eyes of bees really were until the greatly-improved microscopes of the present day in effect gave us another eye to gaze upon those of bees. They have simple eyes, three in number, and disposed in a triangle between the two compound eyes. The latter are wonderful objects under a microscope. The com-

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pound eye of a bee, particularly of a drone, is one of the most exquisitely constructed instruments of nature's handiwork. One of the leaves of chaff that surround a grain of wheat may represent its appearance; but the piece of chaff shows only a uniform glazed surface, whilst in the eye of the bee, which is much darker in colour, though alike externally glazed, the brightness arises from the presence of about 3,500 small but perfectly hexagonal lenses, fitting closely together, and disposed in regular rows over the whole circumference. This structure, then, may be likened to a bundle of 3,500 telescopes, so grouped that the large terminal lenses present an extensive convex surface, whilst, in consequence of the decreasing diameter of the instruments, their narrow ends meet, and form a smaller concentric curve. Could we look through all these telescopes at one glance, and obtain a stereoscopic effect, we might be able to form some conception of the operation of vision in this insect.

Even one of these 3,500 lenses would occupy us long in a complete examination of it. Each of the eyelets, which, when aggregated, constitute the compound eye of the bee, is itself a perfect instrument of vision, consisting of two remarkably formed lenses—an outer corneal and an inner conical lens. The corneal lens is a six-sided prism, and the assemblage of these prisms form the cornea of the compound eye. If the whole or a portion of this cornea be peeled off and placed under a microscope, the beautiful grouping of the lenses becomes distinctly visible. On a close and careful examination the corneal lens of the eyelet is perceived to be not a simple but a compound lens, composed of two plano-convex lenses of different densities or refracting powers. The plane surface of these lenses being adherent, it follows that the prismatic corneal lens is a compound double convex lens, as was discovered by Dr. Hicks. The effect of this arrangement is, that if there should be any aberration or divergence of the rays of light during their passage through one portion of the lens, it is rectified in its transit through the other. It is nothing very new to find lenses of different densities in an animal's eye, but where is there another instance in which one compound lens consists of two adherent lenses of this description?

Yet the wonder does not end here. Man has been unconsciously groping his way in the formation of his most perfect microscopic lens to an imitation of the bee's eye. His aim has been to correct the aberration of light, which caused his lenses to colour and distort the objects under investigation, and he attained this end by employing compound lenses of varying densities. When, after long study, he obtained an achromatic lens, he had but equalled the little bee; and how striking the thought, that, by the use of his own achromatic lens, man first distinctly perceived that of the bee! The little insect had used it for thousands of years perhaps before man trod the earth. By its wonderful lenses and numerous facets, it gains light in the dim cups of flowers. Into those floral hollows it carries, as it were, thousands of light collectors and reflectors, capable of forming a single picture by the means of a great number of smaller images. Into the dark hive it bears the same optical apparatus, and thereby economizes every particle of straggling or slanting light. If bees, as one alleges, always work in the dark, has not each one of them three or four thousand illuminators of these, all in optical operation throughout the hive, how can it be said that these creatures work in the dark?

Other parts of the bee we cannot dwell upon, though there is abundant interest in the oral apparatus, the curious legs, the wings, formed not only as means for locomotion, but also for ventilation, and lastly in the sting, with its poisoned and barbed lance. But we must conclude; and we do so by recommending this little book to general attention. It is replete with interesting facts, told clearly and correctly, and is not a mere repetition of bee anecdotes, but a sufficient entomological tractate. The anatomy of the bee is detailed and illustrated, and the chapters on Instinct are good. All is written so plainly that the book may be easily read, even by those who are as busy as bees; and all is arranged so clearly that those whose eyes are not like those of the bees may use them without distress. On the questions connected with the hexagonal cells we have no space to touch; but a notice of a discussion on Mr. Ellis's paper, 'On the Cause of the Instinctive Tendency of Bees to Form Hexagonal Cells,' may be found in the *Athenæum*, No. 1616, in connexion with our report of the Meeting of the British Association, October, 1858.

Tchinovniks: Sketches of Provincial Life. From the Memoirs of the Retired Conseiller de Cour Stchedrin (Salikow). Translated, with Notes, from the Russian, by Frederic Aston. (Booth.)

WHAT is a "tchinovnik"? He is the representative of that worst form of the circumlocution system which, corrupting, oppressive and abominable, has sprung from the ingenious scheme by which Peter the Great hoped to check and counterpoise the influence of his hereditary noblesse. "Tchin" signifies "rank," and the "tchinovniks" comprise all the members of the Russian Civil Service, who were divided by the autocratic founder of the "tchin" into fourteen ranks, the eleventh of which has, however, been expunged from the table. "Tchinovnik" is consequently the creature who in some form or other practises the vilest acts of extortion and tyranny in every street of Petersburg and Moscow, and in every district of the Muscovite empire. No one but the Czar is great enough, no person whatever is mean enough, to be secure from the clutch of "tchinovnik."

Under the name of fee, or arrangement, or accommodation, or settlement, or customary compliment, money is drawn alike from prince and moujik by the insatiable leech of the "tchin." As Chancellor of the Empire, Actual Privy Councillor, Privy Councillor, Actual Councillor of State, Councillor of State, as this functionary, or that functionary, the "tchinovnik" settles on his prey and sucks blood. "Who is it," asks Mr. Aston in his Introduction, "in short, that is everywhere impeding business with his utmost strength, in order to draw out a few more filthy roubles from his unhappy victims, and who dreads the completion of anything, as bringing with it simultaneously the cessation of his darling fees—the means of his existence? Who is it but the tchinovnik?" To us who have at home a few grievances of the tchinovnik sort, the intelligence is pleasant that there are worse sufferers than ourselves. Companionship in enjoyment is sweet, but companionship in woe is sweeter, especially when in the distribution of the trouble our companions come in for Benjamin's mess, and we escape with a moderate portion.

The author of these Sketches, himself a tchinovnik, and therefore well qualified to display the shame and evil of his brethren, incurred the displeasure of the Emperor Nicholas, and was banished to a remote European pro-

vince. On the accession of the present Czar, however, the period of his exile terminated, and, returning to the society of the capital, he forthwith published his "Sketches" of life in the provincial town of "Krutogorsk"; being a series of satirical pictures directed against the frauds and corruptions of the "tchin." Alarmed by the tendency as well as the power of these portraits, the conservatives of bureaucracy endeavoured to persuade Alexander to prohibit their sale, but the Emperor having perused the obnoxious papers, instead of condemning them, only said that "he had been much amused by them." If this story be true, it is strong evidence in favour of the author's veracity as well as the Czar's enlightenment. But whether they have Imperial favour or not, the stories are unquestionably good in a certain way, and the selections Mr. Aston gives of them make us wish his labours had been on a more extended scale.

Here is a "tchinovnik" figuring as a district doctor:—

"That was a wonderful fellow, there's no doubt about it. Whatever he took in hand always turned out so well that it was a pleasure to see it. One would think vaccination was a simple thing, and yet he knew how to get something even out of that. He would go to the Court, and lay out all his instruments; a turning lathe, different saws, files, bores, anvils, and knives as large as if he was going to cut up an ox. Next day, when the old women and children were assembled, all these tools were set going; the knives were ground, the lathe squeaked, while the children blubbered, and the old women groaned enough to plague a saint. Meanwhile he kept walking up and down the room with an air of importance, puffing at his pipe, sipping his glass, and screeching out to the surgeon to grind the knives sharper. The foolish old women, seeing this, began to whimper the more. 'Law! my dear, he'll cut the babies to bits with his knives! and see how drunk he is himself!' They go on whimpering for some time; then they begin whispering, and, after half an hour, they are told to choose, either to give him a silver rouble a-piece, and be let go, or not to give it, and have the babies' arms cut off."

The same gentleman carried his humorous extortion to a tragic *finale* in the case of a poor Tartar peasant who had shot himself by accident:—

"Well, of course there was an Inquiry; it was found to have been done by accident, and the District Court decided, to ascribe the circumstance to the will of God, but to put the peasant into the hands of the district doctor to be cured. Ivan Petrovitch received the Court's order, but voted it a bore going there; it was such a dreadful way off. However, having recollected that the peasant was well-to-do, as he happened to be on duty on that side of the country about three weeks later, he took him in his way. Meanwhile, the man's shoulder had got quite well. The Doctor arrived, and read the ukase. 'Strip!' says he. 'But, papa, my shoulder is quite well,' says the peasant; 'it has been well more than four weeks.' 'But look, you idolater, look at the ukase! I am commanded to cure you.' There was nothing for it, so the peasant stripped, and the other began to prick him on the still tender spot. The fellow roared for his life, but the Doctor merely grinned, and pointed to the paper. And he only left off, when the peasant had given him three gold pieces. 'Now,' said he, 'God be with you!' When Ivan Petrovitch was again in want of money, he went again to pay the peasant a visit, and in this way he pumped him for more than a year, till he had sucked out all the money the man had. The poor fellow got thin, could neither eat nor drink—he raved on the subject of the Doctor. When, however, the latter found that no more money was to be got, he gave up his visits. The peasant took breath, and began to pluck up a bit. One day, however, it happened, that a certain tchinovnik, quite a different individual, passed through the

village, and asked the people after this man's health (many tchinovniks knew him from his hospitality). So they told the peasant, that there was a tchinovnik asking after him—and what do you think? He, imagining that this was the Doctor, came to practise upon him again, went off home, without saying a word to any one, and hanged himself."

"A grain of conscience" makes the tchinovnik very sour indeed, and a touch of human feeling unfits him for the performance of his bureaucratic duties:—

"But I have already told you, that I dislike the Inquiry business most of all, because it deals with live objects. One sometimes doesn't know how to go to work with it. The Court business is quite another thing; there you have only to do with paper; you sit by yourself in a cabinet, nobody torments you, nobody interrupts you; you sit and act in accordance with sound logic and stern law. If a syllogism is properly put, if all the necessary premises are made, why, then the case is in order, and no one in the world has power to reverse your judgment. I do not appeal to my conscience, I do not consult my private convictions; I merely ascertain, whether all the formalities have been observed, and in this respect I am strict even to pedantry. I decide simply according to the papers before me. What is it to me, whether the crime has actually been committed or not? All I wish to know is, whether, on the face of the papers, it is *proven* or *not proven*."

It may be seen from these extracts and our preceding remarks that the fault of the book is a monotony of cynicism and sarcasm that, notwithstanding the drollery of some passages and the savage extravagance of others, wearies the reader, just as the narrative of Jonathan Wild's villanies, unchequered by any gleam of goodness, soon acts as a narcotic on those to whom its opening pages afforded a scarcely pleasant diversion. Mr. Aston, we may add, seems inclined to interpret his author somewhat too literally, and not to make due allowance for that exaggeration which, if not inseparable from satire, is anyhow invariably a feature of satirical writing.

On Taxation: how it is Raised and how it is Expended. By Leone Levi. (Parker & Son.)

Taxation is a subject upon which there is a great need of popular information. Unfortunately, the approaches to the study are not inviting: they lie in the broad field of Political Economy, where the really earnest student must open deep trenches in regular form. But the number of those who will patiently begin with this tedious labour is necessarily small. As in all the other departments of human knowledge, a curiosity once excited, the inquirer will find that the new truths which lie in his path are endless, and their interest inexhaustible. Indeed, if any man would collect a tithe of the books, tracts and pamphlets which have been put forth upon taxation and finance, he might easily maintain the theory that such subjects have for those who dabble in them an irresistible fascination. How many eyes are rolling in a fine frenzy, not with dreams of poetry, but with schemes for re-adjusting our fiscal system, equalizing the pressure of our Income-Tax or destroying the National Debt, perhaps only a Chancellor of the Exchequer or his unfortunate Secretary would be competent even to form a guess; but no doubt our Hoods and Connollys could certify to the fact, that minds unhealthily disposed to seek excitement find in these reputed sober themes a mysterious attraction. Generally, however, it must be confessed that readers who are new to the subject require enticement; and for these, Prof. Levi's work, though meagre, will form a useful manual. We know of no book by a writer of equal

reputation which would serve as well,—except Mr. MacCulloch's Treatise, which is less popular. It gives a sufficient sketch of the marvellous progress of British wealth and power to interest our patriotism,—enough of the history of each impost to invest it with a sort of biographical interest,—and, by an occasional glance at the follies of the fiscal legislation of the past, it cheers the merest tyro with a pleasant consciousness of being already a better financier than could have been found among the subjects of King Edward the First.

It would not be possible, in a treatise of the kind, to adhere strictly to the limits which the title of this book imposes. The manner in which our revenue is raised and expended cannot be explained without allusions to the faults or excellencies of our system; the question of the justice or injustice, the wisdom or inexpediency of any particular impost, is involved in the very statement of its character and history; nor can the explainer avoid reference to the economical theories by which it must be defended or condemned. These form the least satisfactory portions of Mr. Levi's book. Its author is far more at home in the facts and figures of his subject than in the principles which govern them and give them life. We were scarcely prepared to find an eminent Professor of "the principles and practice of Commerce" gravely enumerating "the calls of the tax-gatherer" among "the arcana of the gigantic prosperity of Britain," and we presume that Mr. Levi does not really think that the supposed effect could be more extensive than its cause, or that a man by being deprived of five pounds would naturally be stimulated to earn six. But the author's views on this subject may be generally described as of that class which are at all times more popular among rulers and dominant parties in a state than among that far greater number with whom "the calls of the tax-gatherer" are occasionally inconvenient. Seventy millions per annum do not strike Mr. Levi as a large sum, when considered as a "premium of insurance" for "the security enjoyed under a strong and beneficent government." "Truly," he exclaims, "forty-two shillings per head is not too much to pay, when we consider the vast territories we have to protect, and the number and wealth of those benefited by the influence and power of the British Government;" and in his "concluding observations" he remarks, that "the present amount of taxes absorbs little more than 10 per cent. of the national income, leaving a superabundant sum for other sources of expenditure and for accumulation." We should hope that there are, among the students of Prof. Levi's class, minds sufficiently vigorous and independent to deal with views of this mild official character.

We thought that it was at length admitted that the question is not whether British security and peace are cheap at their cost—for they would, we suppose, be cheap at even double their cost—but simply, whether they might not be cheaper than they are. It would, perhaps, have been more to the purpose to consider the propriety of retaining salaried offices, which have only nominal duties attached to them; or to discuss the question, why English tax-payers should continue even for another year to pay four millions per annum towards the Government and protection of British colonies, whose material prosperity is greater than our own? What may be called the so-much-per-head argument, though rare in the writings of grave, economical writers, has always been a favourite with the apologists of a large expenditure. It seems to beat out the great sum total of taxation into a substance so

thin that serious objection to its pressure becomes absurd; and it has the great advantage of being almost as conclusive in favour of one hundred and forty millions as of seventy: for it would seem at first sight that he would be a mean fellow indeed who, for the inestimable glory and privilege of being an Englishman, would object to pay a sum of 3*d.* a day, which is really little more than the price of the labourer's pint of beer. It contains, however, a fallacy which ought to be obvious. It is not, of course, meant that an Irish labourer, with a wife and six children, contributes sixteen guineas per annum, besides local taxes; or that there is not an immense proportion of the population who are wholly unable to contribute at anything like this rate. But if they do not, it is certain that the deficiency can only be made up by largely increasing the demands of the tax-gatherer upon that class whose higher standard of decency and comfort no wise government would run the risk of depressing.

Consistently with these views, Prof. Levi is of opinion, that "it does not appear that the present amount of taxation practically hinders the full development of national wealth." But it would, we think, have been a sounder and more useful course to direct the attention of those who will think upon these subjects to the fact, that the exorbitant impost upon the poor man's tea, the long-condemned paper duties, the mischievous insurance duties, and the cruel and vexatious Income-Tax, are defended on no other grounds than the assumed necessity for raising the full amount of our vast revenue, and the impossibility of devising methods of taxation less objectionable.

Mr. Levi, like Mr. MacCulloch, disapproves of the recent treaty with France; but it is not easy to reconcile the grounds which he gives for his disapproval with sound principles. Political economists have all joined in condemnation of treaties of commerce; but it must be admitted, that the late treaty lacks all the objectionable features of the old reciprocity treaties which they had in view. We have entered into no exclusive engagement with France by which English consumers are compelled to purchase, whether most advantageous or not, in French markets,—and France has by her engagement obtained nothing which has not at the same time been accorded gratuitously to all other nations. That even fiscal reforms, which put an end to the folly and the waste of an extensive system of protection—changes which a wise policy would not permit us any longer to delay, and which it is impossible to conceive that we can ever find it advisable to reverse—need not be made the subject of international bargain, is undoubtedly the doctrine of Political Economy; nor does Mr. Cobden himself, we believe, defend this technical departure from a principle, except upon what are generally held to be higher considerations. But the doctrine of the economists was founded mainly upon the discovery, that it is not by its exports, but by its imports, that a nation is enriched, and that, as its purchases must be paid for in some way, exports may well be left to take care of themselves,—which was the very reverse of the doctrine of that mercantile system which they combated, and upon which treaties of commerce have hitherto always been based. It was because they perceived that to buy was the ultimate object that they opposed a policy which regarded nothing as valuable but the liberty to sell. But Mr. Levi's objections to the recent treaty almost all assume the soundness of this exploded doctrine, and are just such as might be imagined to be made by the Gees and the Muns of past times. When he

speaks of us, Mr. the French he speaks taken of France, French that of adva simply admitte factures which cantile Mr. Le Econo Mr. likely other to that able in rate as we ag arrived t; of Mr. manife argum "Mi that if capital the sav an ann that th the ta years. year to and the tax d payme 3007, 1507. Ex an " incom repres incom to 150 a sup the a of th and "T remain annui to sav owner presen It famil quali hims abov Inco savin ough and long that that ing sari which pres to p the an in p all dep fore

speaks of "the smallest benefit" accorded to us, Mr. Levi means the smallest diminution of the French duties on our manufactures; when he speaks of the Emperor having, by the treaty, taken care "to secure double advantages for France," he means twice the facilities for selling French manufactures,—and when he remarks, that it cannot be said "that perfect reciprocity of advantages is thereby provided," he means simply that English manufactures will not be admitted into France as freely as French manufactures are admitted here. These are notions which have always been popular with the mercantile community; but in adopting them Mr. Levi speaks a language which in Political Economy is wholly unknown.

Mr. Levi's chapter on the Income-Tax is more likely to be frequently referred to than any other portion of his book. Mr. Levi belongs to that class who are of opinion that terminable incomes ought not to pay at the same rate as incomes in perpetuity,—and in this we agree with him; but he appears to have arrived at his conclusion with little consideration; and in stating his objections to the views of Mr. J. S. Mill on the opposite side, it is manifest that he has not patiently studied the arguments of that writer.—

"Mr. John Stuart Mill [he remarks] suggests that if we capitalize the incomes, we should also capitalize the payments. If it be unjust to pay the same tax on an annuity worth 1,500*l.* as upon an annuity worth 3,000*l.*, we should also remember that the tax on the 3,000*l.* is in perpetuity, and the tax on the 1,500*l.* is only for a number of years. Supposing the income worth 3,000*l.* a year to pay an Income-Tax of 10*l.* in perpetuity, and the income worth 1,500*l.* to pay also 10*l.* tax during a certain number of years, the [total payments on the] former will be equivalent to 300*l.*, and the [total payments on the] latter to 150*l.* only."

Excepting the inaccuracy of substituting an "income worth 3,000*l.* a year" for "an income worth 3,000*l.*,"—and the absurdity of representing the payments on a terminable income worth 1,500*l.* as necessarily equivalent to 150*l.* (which is, of course, with Mr. Mill only a supposition for the sake of his argument),—the above is a fair statement of the opinion of the latter on this long-debated question; and on this Mr. Levi remarks:—

"This is true; but the real injustice will still remain in the fact that, while the terminable annuitant must endeavour as long as it continues to save something for his children, or others, the owner of permanent or heritable property always preserves the original fund intact."

It would hardly be supposed by any one not familiar with Mr. Mill's work that this very qualification is actually laid down by Mr. Mill himself in the very chapter from which the above statement of his views is derived. "No Income-Tax," he says, "is really just from which savings are not exempted, and no Income-Tax ought to be voted without that provision"; and he enters into details on this subject too long for quotation. The real objection is, not that Mr. Mill omits to allow for savings, but that he arbitrarily assumes that a man investing in terminable or perishable securities necessarily eats up some portion of his capital, which, if he does not do, the Income-Tax, as at present arranged, compels him in some measure to pay tax twice over. Thus, investors are, by the action of the Government, furnished with an artificial motive for preferring investments in perpetuity,—and the result can only be, that all other kinds of securities are unjustly depreciated to the whole extent of that preference.

Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniensis; Liber Albus, Liber Custumarum, et Liber Horn. Edited by T. H. Riley, B.A. Vol. II. (Longman & Co.)

Eulogium (Historiarum sive Temporis) Chronicon ab Orbe condito usque ad Annum Domini 1366. A Monacho quodam Malmesburiensi Ecaratum. Edited by F. S. Haydon, B.A. Vol. II. (Same publishers.)

Annales Cambriae. Edited by the Rev. John W. Ab Ithel, M.A. (Same publishers.)

In these four volumes—for Mr. Riley's work is in two parts—forming in these two divisions the 'Liber Custumarum' complete—we have further contributions, rare and valuable, made by old writers, to the treasures of history, and now rendered accessible to the public, under the direction of the Master of the Rolls.

The first of the three named above, the 'Book of Customs,' chiefly consists of extracts from books so called, preserved in the record room of Guildhall and among the Cottonian Manuscripts. Mr. Riley has exercised sound discretion in keeping to extracts, and in refraining from reproducing those portions of the ancient volumes which have already been printed in 'The Statutes of the Realm,' 'The Feodera,' and 'The Ancient Laws and Institutes of England.' This 'Book of Customs' appears to have formed part of a bequest made by Andrew Horn, fishmonger, and Chamberlain of London, to the Corporation, at his death, in 1328. Its contents are of a diversified character, but all serving, in various ways and degrees, to throw light on the men and manners of the period. The copies of charters granted to the City by the Kings of England are numerous. Among them is to be noted the charter, in the Saxon language, granted by the Conqueror. To the other contents, we can only make general allusion. They refer to the keeping up of coast-defences, to the great fire of London in 1212, the rebuilding of the City, and the laws directed with reference to improvement in the structures, and a greater degree of security. The laws regulating labour manifest too eager a desire to interfere between workmen and employers; but they also often show a determination to protect the former,—as in the enacting of a half-holiday on every Saturday throughout the year, commencing at noon. Strange labourers and foreign merchants, with few exceptions, were discouraged within the City walls. The former were harshly treated if they attempted to disobey the regulations for work and pay; while the latter either could not reside in the City at all, or their brief residence there was permitted under restrictions so eminently disagreeable, we can only conclude that great profits alone could compensate for the oppression under which they laboured.

Now and then, a cheerful ceremony appears among these humiliating matters,—such as when the wine fleets from abroad reached the eastern limit of the Mayor's jurisdiction over the Thames; at which point the ships were bound to hoist ensign and sail in order, the crews generally singing their song of praise and thanksgiving, "according to the old law." At their moorings, near the bridge, they were bound to remain two ebbs and a flood, and were forbidden to sell any part of their cargo to any purchaser whatever until the King's officers had been on board each ship, and bought, for His Grace's use, such gold and silver plate, precious stones, jewelry, and other valuable articles with which this fleet was freighted, besides wine. This matter of business having been transacted, the wine sale was commenced "to such merchants as might present themselves as customers, those of London having

the priority, and those of Winchester coming next."

Looking through other commercial regulations, we find prohibition laid on certain would-be buyers from purchasing certain specified articles; and, although exclusive privileges were occasionally granted to the favoured few, in no case was permission ever accorded for the taking out of the country with them either provisions or arms. In the case of the foreign dealers in woad, the restrictions were of the most severe and jealous character. Their stay in the country was not permitted after a residence of forty days in each year; and then we have the following illustration of the ancient ideas connected with "Protection." When the above term was about to expire, the merchant was bidden to prepare for departure, when "he may not hand over any part of his wares to his host, or to any other person, nor may he carry them away with him. But let him see that within the time limited he makes sale of the same as well as he can; for if any part thereof shall be found after the time limited unto him, it shall be wholly lost." Mr. Riley may well designate such regulations as astounding.

The trickeries of trade are also among the multifarious matters noticed in this 'Book of Customs.' The most amusing, perhaps, was that committed by dishonest saddle-makers, who were wont to construct their saddle-bows of green wood, ill glued together, and painted hastily, and which were given to warp and suddenly split under the rider,—very much to his annoyance. The saddlers generally seem to have been a flourishing and saucy brotherhood; not so the melancholy and humiliated weaver, the restrictions put upon whose person, labour and freedom of action reduced him to the condition of the most degraded bondman; and this not in London only, but in the principal cities of England, during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. From these restrictions the weavers occasionally obtained some measure of exemption, but it was only on paying dearly for the temporary boon. Mr. Riley sets down their locality in London in what is now known as Cannon, but what was then called *Candlewick*, and, by abbreviation, *Canwyck* Street, the cloths of which place were famous at the period treated of in this volume. The weavers appear in this record as hard-working, honest and ill-used persons, very much looked down upon by the makers of bad saddles, and also by the thriving, dishonest cordwainers, who were in the habit of mixing the leather used in their workmanship; "basil or sheepskin, for example, with cordwain; and calf-leather with cow-leather; and of cutting out shoes of basil, calf-skin and dog-skin, and selling the same to knights and other great lords of the land for cordwain and for kid." These dishonest fellows were only kept in check by the visitation of something like an annoyance jury, which seems to be an institution of considerable antiquity.

In addition to the mass of information connected with trades and mysteries, (*métier*, *métier*, i. e. business or calling) there are ample details of matters having reference to the history of the City of London, the governors, and the governed, generally.

The original work is prefaced by an Introduction, in which Mr. Riley discusses the volume, tells its story, and clears up its difficulties, with his usual completeness and lucidity. In the Glossary at the end, he has also rendered excellent service to the student.

When the first volume of 'Eulogium' was published, we contented ourselves with awarding a general meed of praise to its accomplished

editor, reserving further comment until the second portion of the work should be given to the world. We have now before us the second division of a Chronicle which, commencing from the Creation, is brought down to the year 1366. The details are chiefly compilations; but the record of the later years, which will supply matter for concluding volumes, is the work of a contemporary hand noting down the hearsays and the experiences of his time. In clearly written Introductions, Mr. Haydon enters fully into the authorship of the histories, pointing out what is borrowed, and indicating what is original. The chief division of the labour is from the hands of "a certain Malmesbury monk," one of whose names was Thomas. To his Chronicle are added two "Continuations," one of which carries the record of events to the year 1413, the other to 1490. The volume recently published closes at the end of the seventh century: we may, accordingly, conclude, with some reason, that the most interesting part of these historical chronicles has yet to be produced.

That the interest progresses as the work is advanced, we have a proof in the superior attractions of this second volume to its predecessor, both of them carefully and competently edited. Of the contents of the second volume, the most amusing are to be found among the notices respecting Ireland. It is a common idea that Ireland was conferred on Henry the Second by Pope Adrian the Fourth, His Holiness being chiefly induced thereto by the information derived from an Irish monk, his quondam teacher of Latin, as to the incapability of the Irish for ever ruling themselves. Others trace the Papal right to make this gift, in the surrender of the Irish regalia at Rome, in 1023, by King Donough, who had murdered his brother, and condemned himself to this confiscation of the rights of his successors as compensation for his crime. This Chronicle, however, opens up a new theory touching the sovereignty of Britain over the Emerald Isle. According to the Chronicle, the whole people of Ireland had been extinguished in three months by the uncommon rarefaction of the air, when it was taken possession of under the sanction of the British King Belinus, whose son, as it would seem, established a colony there, and thus laid the foundation of the aforesaid sovereignty!

Of the Irish of a later period the old author speaks not very flatteringly: they are a people, he tells us, given rather to sports, indolence and hunting, than to the cultivation of the soil. With them, sloth was luxury, idleness riches; and, as the chronicler writes with a certain punning humour in his style, their maliciousness was more to be feared than their militiamousness—"magis timenda est malitia quam militia." If his picture of some of their domestic habits be correct, the reader will be struck, in one particular instance especially, with their resemblance to similar habits distinguishing men and women in Egypt, as mentioned by Herodotus.

The old English do not come off much more favourably under the limning of this artist, than the Irish. There is, indeed, something like the gift of second sight attributed to them; and we are told, that a monk of King Ethelred's days prophesied that the English, because of their extravagance, drunkenness and neglect of the House of God, would be given up to be oppressed, first by the Danes, secondly by the Normans, and thirdly by the Scots,—whom, adds the chronicler, in a fit of indignation, I take to be the vilest of the three! Even in those early days, we find a rage for dress enumerated among the sources of family ruin.

The roll of kings before the advent of Julius Cæsar,—some of whom are supposed to have sat on thrones of some splendour in this our London, long familiarly known as "the King's Seat,"—is likely to set many a student thinking. We do not accept the roll for historical truth; but it must rest on some basis, and, even thus far only, will lead many to place credence in the probable theory that if the fleet of Cæsar did indeed enter the Thames, as it may have done, as far as the Medway, the eagles of the first invading Roman never alighted on the ramparts of the London of old. The names and the characteristics of the British kings of the pre-Roman period cannot be—indeed, they are known not to be—all fictitious, whether their capital be called Trinovantum or London. We have pleasure in believing in that Elidur, from whose royal presence no man, who had stood before it in sorrow, departed otherwise than radiant and laughing. We cheerfully recognize the reality of King Beldgabred, the Singer, whose other surname of "Deus Jocularium" points to a rollicking court before the sad, but, perhaps necessary, Roman days. We have so much of the traditions of subsequent days living in ballads and chap-books, that if these be held to have a certain value as reflectors of truth, we do not understand why the relics of the more ancient period are not also to be treated with certain respect. Among the former, is an agreeable illustration of our well-known royal friend, old King Coel, who out of a "Count" had made himself a King, and settled down at Kaer-Colin, the modern Colchester, the Roman authorities apparently espousing his cause. When he was fairly established in his capital,—the old limits of which are still so well defined,—the Romans despatched a messenger to him for the payment of his dues—tribute, in fact. But what was the reply of that "jolly old soul"? "He answered," says the chronicler, "in that facetious way of his (*modo faceto*), that he was extremely ready to pay whatever they could ask according to law." Constantius took the merry and independent old monarch for his father-in-law; and, albeit some Smellfunguses have sneered at old Coel's blood, and hinted something about its being that of a tapster, Helena, the *parvenue* empress, was a better lady than half of those of alleged older "tap" who wore the Imperial purple.

Among other traditions, helping, more or less, to the elucidation of truth, we meet with the acceptable one touching Stonehenge. The old chronicler, ignoring that most absurd theory, which no scholar ever soberly conceived or acknowledged, that those huge piles were only gallowses whereupon to hang criminals, states that Stonehenge marks the spot where Hengist treacherously slew the Britons who had come thither, unarmed, to a conference. "On that day," he adds, "the name of Britain was lost, and that of Hengistland (by syncope, Hengland) took its place." The chronicler, indeed, does not state that the famous stones were piled on that identical spot in memory of the deed, although they indicate the locality. He ascribes their coming thither to the subsequent time of King Aurelius, brother of Uther Pendragon, by the art of Merlin, who brought them through the air from Ireland, whither they had been previously conveyed by giants from Africa. Here are fable and fact in abundance, but truth glimmers around it all.

It is this commingling of incidents which gives the greatest charm to volumes like these, every page of which abounds with them. Though such books are not history, they are a part of history, and a part which will not bear being neglected; for, despite the dross, there is a vein of bright and valuable ore pervading the

whole. It is barely necessary to say, that such memorials of old times and traditions, serving the objects of history, require great qualifications on the part of an editor. It is necessary and reasonable that we should add, that in no one of the required qualifications have we found Mr. Frank Haydon wanting.

The third work named at the head of this notice has been carefully edited by the Rector of Llanyowddwy, Merionethshire. It is probably the oldest existing chronicle of Welsh affairs. Its dates extend from the middle of the fifth to nearly the close of the thirteenth century; the entries being those, chronologically arranged, of three different chronicles. For the most part, the records are brief and scanty, especially in the earlier portions; but they are generally of interest. They refer, now, to nights as light as day, and then, to days marked by the darkness of night. We hear of storms and earthquakes, and find something remarkable even in the pedigree of Owain (given in a note), among whose ancestors on the female side is gravely inserted Anna, the wife of Belus the Great, which Anna "is said to have been the cousin of the Virgin Mary, the mother of our Lord." Showers of blood are duly recorded; the venerable Bede "sleeps"; chiefs and princes "die"; others "die the death, *morte moriuntur*." Eclipses, deadly comets, mortality of men and cattle, murders, very frequent cutting of throats, form much of the staple matter. In 896, we read of a shower of mole-shaped worms with two teeth, which devoured everything in their way, and which were only expelled by fasting and prayer. Walter Tyrrell is not recorded as the murderer of Rufus, but "a certain soldier who was looking after deer." An exactly similar description is given, in the year 1143, of the death of Milo, Earl of Hereford. This was the Milo de Gloucester who, three years previously, owed his title of Earl to the Empress Maud, "Domina Anglorum." The charter of creation still exists, and it is the earliest extant in which the date of creation is to be found.

To deprive a captive prince of his eyes, is a form of vengeance on the part of his victor, against which the registrar never takes exception. In 1176 is recorded the building of a stone bridge over the Thames, at London. When Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, dies in 1205, the chronicler says that he was a man of wonderful industry and craft, but of small learning. This was the Archbishop in whose place Reginald, the sub-prior, elected by the monks, was set aside by the King, at the request (so it has been thought) of those who had elected him; and John Grey, chosen after him, was set aside by the Pope for a greater man than any of them, namely, Stephen Langton. But this chronicler tells us, that John coerced the monks into this second election; and that the Pope refused to accept Grey on account of his unclerical habits and his general reputation. The dissensions which ensued are duly narrated by the chronicler, who grows more communicative as his chronicle draws to a close. The story of the conquest of Wales by Edward is sketched with some spirit; but no mention is made, under the year 1284, of the birth of Edward's son at Caernarvon—a rather singular omission in a Welsh chronicler, who, on the other hand, informs us of the fate of the only child, daughter of the last of the Welsh Princes of Wales, the luckless Llewellyn. This infant, whose birth had cost her English mother her life, was captured with her nurse, and her royal kinsman, Edward, carried her into England. The chronicler did not live long enough to record her after-fate, which was but a dreary one. Edward cloistered her

up; and this caged bird from the Welsh mountains died, in the flower of her days, a nun in the Lincolnshire convent at Sempringham. The Glossary appended to this volume is useful, for the Latin text itself is full of barbarisms; such as "Magna morina hominum," to express great mortality among men. This part of his work, as well as the editing generally, reflects credit on the Merionethshire rector.

The Asian Mystery illustrated in the History, Religion, and Present State of the Ansareeh or Nusairis of Syria. By the Rev. Samuel Lyde, M.A. (Longman & Co.)

THE claims of the late Rev. Samuel Lyde to be regarded as an authority on the debated questions of the Ansareeh people and religion were undoubtedly strong. He had been familiar with the sect for many years, "as the only European who lived among them in their mountains, where alone they are unmixed with other tribes." He possessed, moreover, an Ansareeh liturgical book, called the 'Manual of Sheikhs,' in which all the main points of the mystic system, theological and ceremonial, were developed; and he had at command various Arabian and Ansareeh works; but it is evident that he was far from a perfect penetrator of the "Asian Mystery" from the statement in his Preface, respecting his "acquaintance with Ansareeh belief and customs, acquired orally from Christian servants and others brought up in Ansareeh districts; and, especially, from an Ansareeh lad, who has had many opportunities of gaining information." Be this as it may, and whatever value we may assign to the testimony of the "lad," the book is replete with curious and carefully digested details. The Ansareeh doctrine, let us say, comes from the same mountains as the far more popular Latakia tobacco, and spreads also over the plains to the west of those perfumed ranges, as well as in other directions. It has a home, too, in Antioch and Bagdad, and beyond the bounds of Syria, amid the relics of Tarsus. The localization of the race is very laboriously indicated by Mr. Lyde, together with that of the Ismaeleh, or Assassins, frequently confounded with the Ansareeh, but who are rapidly dwindling away. After remarking upon the confusion of ideas in Western Europe with reference to these populations, he devotes an admirable chapter to the secret heretical sects of Islam,—notably, the Karmatians and the Druses. We occasionally hear from admirers of Orientalism, that Mohammedanism is free from schism. The Prophet himself—so saith the legend, which we are bound to believe—declared that from the creed he had founded seventy-two heresies had sprung in his lifetime, against sixty-nine in the Magian, seventy in the Jewish, and seventy-one in the Christian community.

The Ansareeh invoke the Deity under extraordinary appellations. They appeal to him as the "Prince of Bees," "the Lion," "the Crown of the Chosroes Line," and "the End of Ends":—

"My lad tells me that before sunrise the people get up and wash; and then, either rising or sitting, inside the house or walking to and fro outside, they repeat in a low voice, rapidly and unintelligibly, their prayers, which some of them omit for a month together, and sometimes continue for an hour at a time, ending with a chant. Not long ago some sheikhs were in his house; they got up long before light, and after washing and walking about a little outside, reciting their prayers, entered the house, and for more than an hour continued them, till near the rising of the sun. They prayed also at noon, and again for an hour or so before sunset. When sheikhs are in a quarter of a village, they

will sometimes assemble the people to prayer. We have seen that the whole number of their daily prostrations is to be fifty-one, but these Rakahs they do not employ, except at their secret meetings; and the morning, or that and the evening, are the only usual times of prayer. Morning prayer is considered especially good. The presence of a Mussulman does not make their prayers void, but the appearance of a Christian within forty feet, unless running water be between, does."

Among the most singular customs of this sect are those attending their burials:—

"When a man or woman dies a sheikh is brought. Water is warmed and the dead person taken out of the house, when, in the case of a man, the sheikh washes the body, first pouring water on it three times from head to foot. This is called *mushahidel*, or 'testifying.' A woman is of course washed by a woman. A piece of linen, unsewn, is wound round the body as grave-clothes, and then the clothes even to the turban are put on, and the body buried in them. In the case of a woman much beloved by her relatives, her jewels and rings are buried with her, and in all cases needle and thread. A bier is then made of two poles connected by rope; an outer garment being placed on it, and the corpse above, covered with a quilt. The poles are not brought back from the tomb till after seven days. The sheikh heads the procession to the grave, uttering prayers till it arrives at the sepulchre. Two men go down into the grave, which is four to five feet deep. One side is hollowed out, so as partly to receive the corpse, which is then covered by large stones, supported, that is leaning, against the hollowed side. The nose, ears, and mouth of the corpse are stopped with cotton. As in the case of the Mohammedans, nothing blue is placed in the grave. They then fire their guns and return home. They sit in the house of the deceased, condoling with the friends, and partake of a repast, some of which may have been brought by the guests. These also give the deceased's friends alms for the sheikh, who perform the same duty in return on similar occasions. When the earth has been thrown into the grave, a man or woman with a good voice sings something in praise of the deceased, and from time to time stops, when the bystanders weep. I was once present at a most melancholy funeral. Two of the men of my village (one of whom was the only one who could read, and the most sensible of the people of it) were killed in a fight. In the morning they were engaged in building my house, and on an alarm being given went off to a fight, from which they were brought home dead towards evening. Their bodies were laid side by side at the burial-place, and the men of the village who had come back tired, begrimed with powder, and excited, helped alternately to dig their graves. There was much unseemly altercation as to who should perform this act of charity, all professing themselves to be too tired."

Several crude essays have been published on the Ansareeh, and Mr. Lyde's volume is of importance as a corrective.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Admiralty Administration: Its Faults and Defaults. (Longman & Co.)—The author of this slight brochure is pugnacious, but indiscreet. Not content with attacking Admiralty Administration, he directs a torrent of sarcasm against the Emperor Napoleon, traduces the French people, ridicules Mr. Cobden, sneers at the Commercial Treaty, and covers John Bright with derision. "Observe, for example," says this belligerent pamphleteer, "while he [the Emperor of the French] is straining every nerve to establish a naval superiority, the use he is making of the party in England who oppose our armaments. When he takes his first step in the traditional policy of national aggrandizement, hear them exclaim 'Perish Savoy!'" This is a fair specimen of the veracity of the entire treatise. It is needless to remark that Mr. Bright, in the House of Commons, did say "Perish Savoy," and it is just as needless to remark that the two words, taken apart from the sentence of which they originally were a portion, bear a signification widely different

from the sentiments expressed by the Member for Birmingham. The same sort of dishonesty pervades every page. A little piece of the truth is frequently more fruitful of error than the whole of a pure falsehood. The substitution of half-truths for whole truths is a favourite form of misrepresentation with timid calumniators. By giving slander the specious guise of careful inquiry, it more readily than any other artifice of mendacity imposes on the ill-informed. Our author knows this; and he does not hesitate to avail himself of the knowledge when passing judgment on his political adversaries.

The Works of Virgil. Translated by Charles Rann Kennedy. (Bohn.)—Worthily to render Virgil into English verse is a task of no ordinary difficulty. Mr. G. Long, whose authority upon such a point is not to be disputed, somewhere says, that, if any body thinks Virgil easy, it is a proof that he does not understand him. And even supposing the sense of the original to have been accurately ascertained, there remains the still greater difficulty of expressing it in English verse in such a way as at the same time to reflect the characteristic features of the style in some degree. In short, to succeed in such an undertaking as Mr. Kennedy has ventured upon, requires the genius of the poet no less than the learning of the scholar. Mr. Kennedy has afforded too many proofs of scholarship to allow of any doubt as to his competency in that respect, but we are not aware of any previous achievement of his in the way of versification warranting the hope of success in so arduous a task; nor have we discerned in his present effort the requisite amount of poetic power or command of language. Though his translation is generally accurate, it is not always an adequate rendering of the original. The meaning is correctly given, but the beauty is lost. We miss the smoothness and elegance which Virgil took so much pains to impart to his productions. The verse does not flow easily. Forced and unusual modes of construction are not unfrequently employed, and occasionally words for which no good authority can be found. The well-known Laocoon incident may be taken as a favourable specimen of the work:—

But now a stranger and more fearful sight
Th' insensate thoughtless populace confounds:
Laocoon, for priest of Neptune chosen,
Was immolating at the altar-side
A stately bull, when lo, from Tenedos
A pair of snakes voluminous and vast
(I shudder to relate) the stilly deep
Came swimming over, and with even pace
Prest for the shore, their fronts above the wave
Uplift, and sanguine crests crested high;
Their hinder parts redundant swept the main
In spiry orbs; the beaten waters foam'd;
And soon they reach'd the land, their eyes suffused
With fire and blood, with hissing forked tongues
Licking their mouths; we scatter'd at the sight
With terror pale; they toward Laocoon straight
Advancing, either serpent fasten'd round
His little children twain, with deadly fangs
Tearing their tender limbs; the father next,
Who hasten'd up with succour and with arms,
They seize, they bind him in their tortuous grasp,
Twice round the middle, twice about the neck
Twining their scaly backs, above him rear
Their heads exultant; he with desperate hands
Struggles the knots to rend, his wreaths disdain'd
With gore and filthy venom, all the while
With outcries horrible rifting the sky:
As when a wounded bull hath 'scaped the altar
And shaken from his throat the errant axe,
Thus bellow'd he; the serpents gliding off
Up to the summit of our citadel
And fane of cruel Pallas made their way,
There crouch'd beneath his feet and orb'd shield.

—We have noticed one or two instances of mis-translation, which were surprised to see.

Historical Pictures Retouched: a Volume of Miscellanies. By Mrs. Dall, Author of 'Woman's Right to Labour.' (Whitfield.)—A collection of notices biographical and critical, in which Mrs. Dall has reviewed the labours of women in the several departments of science, literature and public life. Her bias is strong; she goes to her work with a predetermined opinion; being well informed and sensible, she stamps upon her chivalric miscellany the impress of a convinced rather than of a prejudiced mind. It is perfectly true, as she affirms, that the vulgar theory of Aspasia's character has long been exploded among scholars, and that the genius of Hypatia has been frequently misunderstood. But Mrs. Dall, not-

withstanding the careful collation of her facts, occasionally drives her conclusions very far. Nothing she has met with throughout her researches warrants the hint in vindication of a Lucretia Borgia. Little is gained, moreover, by laudation of the Pistoian peasant-girl whom "an enamoured faction" crowned in the Capitol of Rome. Still less is it necessary to remind us of the influence enjoyed by the flagitious Olympia Maldachini, by Madame Pompadour; but, from the materials she has chosen, the American author has produced a little book excellent in spirit and in design.

Clever Boys of our Time, and How They became Famous Men: Dedicated to Youths and Young Men anxious to rise in the World. (Darton & Co.)—In a particularly lax and pallid style, the compiler of this little volume sentimentalizes over the earlier fortunes of Lord Macaulay, Professor Faraday, Mr. Dickens, Mr. Cruikshank, Mr. Disraeli, and Mr. W. S. Lindsay, the shipowner. We cannot testify that he has done much with his subject; but the text is, to say the least, an improvement upon the illustrations, which are feeble and maudlin, and, as portraits, no better than caricatures.

Ten Years Imprisonment in the Dungeons of Naples. By Antonio Nicolo. (Bennett.)—The author of this narrative is, though inoffensively, a somewhat romantic egotist. He tells us of the early fame which gathered to him,—of a love-passion in which he broke the heart of a sweet Casalinuovo maiden who had called him angel, and who, when dying, wrote to him in a soft Italian stanzas:—"If cold ashes can love, even in my tomb I shall adore thee." Such a prelude justifies the expectation of a poetical story; but afterwards, when M. Nicolo has to describe his political adventures, he makes use of language less ornate, and affords really interesting glimpses of the Neapolitan prison interiors, avoiding exaggeration, and entering upon minute details which will satisfy most readers with respect to his good faith.

Poems and Songs. By J. R. (Belfast, Henderson.)—More poems. To judge from the title-pages of books like these, poetry should be "plenty as blackberries;" and so it may be, provided the bramble fruit is not required to be ripe. These verses, though "on the turn" (to continue the simile), are still too crude to be tasted with any pleasure. The songs make up the best portion of the volume; and in some of them is a chime which might entitle them to the notice of a musician of the second class, searching for rhymes to set in ballad form.

Reveries of a Country Parson. Second Series. (Parker & Co.)—This second series is superior to its predecessor; like that volume, a republished collection of magazine papers.—Use has made the writer more sterling, and less over-simple in the personal confessions which were redundant in the former essays. There are fairness of judgment, charity of spirit and sweetness of heart, discernible in some of these pages.—witness the papers entitled "Disappointment and Success" and "Growing Old"; in others, as in "Coming Down and Going Up," there is fine observation. For ourselves, there may be somewhat a superfluity of this easy literature. We may fancy it tending to a dilution of nervous thought, to the encouragement of indecision of opinion;—but there are many writers and readers who hold a doctrine opposite to this,—who like to play with subjects, rather than to work at them, to float serenely along the stream of speculation, hopeful in arriving at last on some pleasant shore, or in some cloud-land of golden mist as good as *terra firma*. These will enjoy this new book by the "Country Parson,"—now, he confides to us, a "Country Parson" no more, but settled in a picturesque town hard by the sea.

Of pamphlets on Education and lectures delivered at various Institutions, we have to notice:—*The Proper Limits of the State's Interference in Education*, by Harry Chester, Esq. (Bell & Daldy),—*Thoughts on Eton*, suggested by Sir J. Coleridge's Speech at Twerton, by an Etonian (Rivingtons),—*National Education; Reasons for the Rejection in Britain of the Irish System: a Brief Exposition for Christian Educationists*, by the Rev. W. Fraser (Nisbet),—*Adult Education, and how to promote it*, by W. J. Bullock (Low). To these we may

add the following lectures:—Mr. Hodgson on *The Conditions of Health and Wealth Educationally Considered* (Gordon),—Mr. William Longman's third Lecture on *The History of England* (Longman),—Dr. Lankester's First Course of Lectures on Food (Hardwicke),—the Rev. J. B. Pratt on *The Druids* (Blackwood),—The Right Hon. J. Whiteside on *The City of Rome and its Vicissitudes* (Hodges, Smith & Co.),—Mr. Belton on *A Plea for Debating Societies* (Stevens),—Dr. Strachan on *Nature in the Cure of Disease* (Sutherland & Knox),—Dr. Hepburn on *Mechanical Dentistry* (Adlard),—Mr. Joynt on *The Salmon Fishery, and Fishery Laws of Ireland* (Ponsonby),—Mr. Booth on *The Struggle for Existence* (Whitfield),—Mr. Craik on *The Distinguishing Characteristics and Essential Relationships of the Leading Languages of Asia and Europe* (Bagster),—and the Right Hon. J. Moncrieff's address on *Jurisprudence and the Amendment of the Law* (Black).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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Winslow's *Precious Things of God*, new edit. 6s. 8d. cl.
Winslow's *Help Heavenward*, new edit. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Wonder Book of Nature's Transformations, folio. 2s. 6d. cl.
Wordsworth's *Poetical Works*, new edit. 6s. 8d. cl. gilt.
Wray's *Child's Help to Scripture History*, 18mo. 2s. cl.
Wright's *The Celt, the Roman and the Saxon*, 2nd edit. 12s. cl.
York's (A.) *Stanzas*, 6s. 8d. cl.

DR. DONALDSON.

We have lost during the present week one of the most distinguished of our English scholars, in the full maturity of his intellectual powers, John William Donaldson, who died in London on Sunday last, February the 10th, at the premature age of forty-nine. Dr. Donaldson has left behind him a series of works which entitle him to one of the highest positions among the scholars of this country. He was early distinguished for the keenness of his intellect, and wonderful facility in the acquisition of knowledge. After studying in the University of London, where he gained the highest Greek prize in 1830, he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge. Here he amply fulfilled the expectations of his friends; he took the second place in the Classical Tripos in 1834, and was shortly afterwards elected a Fellow of his college. He now devoted himself with characteristic energy to the study of Comparative Philology, to which English scholars had hitherto paid little attention, but to which a great impulse had been given in

Germany by the writings of Grimm, Bopp, Pott and others. In 1839 he published the result of his studies in a thick octavo volume, entitled, 'The New Cratylus; or, Contributions towards a more accurate Knowledge of the Greek Language.' This work, considering the early age of the author (he was at the time only twenty-seven), and the vast amount of learning which it displayed, may well be deemed extraordinary. It marks an era in English scholarship, and was the first attempt to present in a systematic form to the English student the philological literature of the Continent; and to point out the great importance of comparative philology in explaining the grammatical forms of the Greek language.

Soon after the publication of this work, Dr. Donaldson became Head-Master of the Grammar School of Bury St. Edmund's, where he resided for many years. Notwithstanding his official duties, sufficient to exhaust the energy of most men, his literary activity was unabated; and hardly a year passed without his making some important contribution to classical learning. We must mention his editions of Pindar, and of the 'Antigone' of Sophocles, and his 'Varroianus,' a large and important work, in which he rendered the same service to the Latin language which he had previously performed for the Greek. No higher proof can be given of the estimation in which he was now held than his being selected by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge to continue the 'History of Greek Literature,' left unfinished by the lamented death of K. O. Müller.

In the midst of these numerous engagements, Dr. Donaldson found time to devote himself to the study of Hebrew and Biblical literature. Being himself a clergyman, but conscientiously holding theological opinions strongly opposed in many points to those commonly received, he did not hesitate to expound his own sentiments in a learned work, entitled 'Jashar.' The book was well received in Germany; but though written in Latin, that it might be read only by the learned, it was strongly attacked by many of the theological periodicals in this country. Whatever opinions may be entertained of Dr. Donaldson's views, no one can fail to admire the courage and honesty of a man who sacrificed his prospects of preferment in the Church to what he conscientiously believed to be the advocacy of truth.

About five years ago, Dr. Donaldson removed to Cambridge, and it was generally believed that his eminent services would be rewarded by one of the Professorships expected to be founded upon the reform of the University. But he has passed away before these reforms were carried into effect. The Senate of the University of London showed their appreciation of his merits by appointing him, in 1858, Classical Examiner, in conjunction with Dr. William Smith, which office he held at the time of his death. Meantime, his literary exertions were greater than at any former period of his life; and the demand for new editions of his works led him to over-task even his powers of mind. In the last two years he brought out new editions of his 'Cratylus,' 'Varroianus,' 'Jashar,' 'Theatre of the Greeks,' and he re-wrote his Greek and Latin Grammars. It became evident to his friends, towards the close of last year, that his strength was failing; and when he came up to London in the middle of January to discharge his duties as Examiner in the University of London, he found himself unequal to the exertion. He rapidly became worse; and, after an illness of four weeks, died a martyr to the cause of learning. He has not left a better scholar behind him. His loss will be deeply felt, not only by a large circle of admiring friends, but by all who value sound scholarship, integrity of character, and love of truth.

GARIBALDI THE VELTRO OF DANTE.

Newington Butts, Surrey.

ANOTHER column requires to be added to the History of the VELTRO in addition to those which appeared about a year since in the pages of the *Athenæum*. We have recently witnessed one part

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of the completion of Dante's remarkable prophecy. Italy has become a nation; and that great fact has been accomplished by a man of the people,—one gifted beyond all other men with those great qualities which Dante has given as the characteristics of his Hero, the Italian Liberator.

Sapienza, amore, e virtute.

We must be blind indeed, if in the person of that truly great and good man to whom Victor Emmanuel is indebted for the title by which he has lately been saluted, GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI, we do not recognize the characters distinctly displayed of the VELTRO, the MESSO DI DIO, the DUCE of Dante's prophetic announcement, so long and so ardently expected.

Nor can we fail to be astonished at the rapidity of this great achievement, at the means by which it was effected, the causes which led to it, and the consequences which have followed it.

Like one truly sent from God, the Liberator, as if inspired, suddenly comes forth; he despises all worldly calculations; he sets at naught the wisdom of men; he is ridiculed, laughed at, disowned; but he cares for none of these things: his love of Italy, his faith in her cause, his trust in God, his inmost conscience working with a certainty that never fails him, and inspiring others with his own convictions, making it their joy no less than their pride to follow him in any danger, well knowing that he is capable of bringing them through with success; these things which enter not into the constitution of regular armies, nor are the ordinary materials of warfare, gave to the followers of Garibaldi a force, firmness, and resolution which enabled them to overcome what would otherwise have been insurmountable obstacles. But though enthusiasm will make soldiers, it will not make a great Captain, such as General Garibaldi, and as the VELTRO must needs have been. It was to this capacity for commanding that Dante himself would appear to have had an especial regard when sketching the character of his hero—

Di quell' umile Italia fia salute,
Per cui morì la vergine Camilla,
Eurialo, e Turno, e Niso di ferute.

Inf. I., 106-8.

As also in that verse of the Purgatory (xxxiii. 43) in which the MESSO DI DIO is characterized as "Un cinquecento dieci e cinque,"—that is, as a *dux*, or leader. And again, towards the close of the 'Paradise' (xxvii. 61-63), where the poet exclaims—

Ma l'alta provvidenza, che con Scipio
Difese a Roma la gloria del mondo,
Soccorrà tosto, al com'io concepì.

When this passage was written, Can Grande di Verona, whom, since the days of Vellutello, it has been the fashion to regard as the Veltro intended by Dante, had, probably, passed the zenith of his glory, and may have been subjected to defeat. Cane was at the height of his renown in 1316, when he was elected Captain-General of the Ghibellines. In the following year, at the siege of Padua, he lost the commander of his army, Ugucione della Faggiuola, who died of fever, August the 5th. In 1320 Can Grande was defeated at Padua. Dante died the year after, September the 14th. At least, this is the period usually assigned to his death, though a learned Roman has sought to show that he lived for several years later. All the notices of Dante's death, however, which I have ever seen in MS. copies of the 'Divina Commedia,' dating from the latter half of the fourteenth century—and they are tolerably numerous—give this date, September 14, 1321.

But when Dante died the 'Paradise' was unfinished in the copies then extant. Thirteen cantos were wanting, and Dante's sons Pietro and Jacopo had formed the resolution of supplying the deficiency. Fortunately this was rendered unnecessary by a marvellous vision which happened to Jacopo, who was the more zealous of the two, through which, as related by Boccaccio, the missing cantos were found where the Poet had hidden them. There is, therefore, no knowing exactly at what time this passage in the 27th Canto of the 'Paradise' was written, but it must have been written subsequently to the time at which the Poet presented to Can Grande those which were the latest finished, from the 10th to the 20th. Arriva-

bene thinks this took place in 1316, after the 22nd of May, when Cane obtained his second victory at Vicenza. So that the 27th Canto might not have been written till at least three years later, when Fortune seemed less favourable to the Ghibelline captain than before.

The Emperor Henry the Seventh had failed in his enterprise of uniting the Italians as one people. Ugucione had also failed; and the star of Can Grande was on the wane;—but Dante's hopes never deserted him. What he firmly believed, that he foresaw,—and though, with many others, he was subjected to passing disappointment in the supposed Liberator of his people, yet, nevertheless, this Liberator was in the dim distance of the future seen, and Dante clung to his beloved image to the very last.—

Questi non ciberà terra nè fello

Ma sapienza, ed amore, e virtute,

E sua nazione sarà tra fello e fello.

We could not have a more faithful sketch of Garibaldi than that which is contained in the first two verses. It remains to be shown how the third verse harmonizes with it.

Here it must be remembered that the now universal way of printing *fello* with a large F is a mere assumption, without any foundation in the old MSS. With a large initial it looks like the name of a place, but it is more than doubtful if it were ever intended for one. We must here turn to the earlier lights, and to the period when Can Grande della Scala was never dreamt of for Dante's Veltro,—albeit the Khan of Tartary was. Modern commentators seem quite to have lost sight of this ancient notion; but, I believe, there is more nominal significance or analogy in it than even Giovanni Boccaccio was aware of, who calls it "*assai pellegrina*," or very farfetched. Giovanni maintains that *fello* here means nothing more than a very coarse sort of cloth, and that the words are used figuratively to signify a person of humble parentage, who, by the force of his personal virtue and praiseworthy operations, shall arrive at pre-eminence and excellence in ruling and controlling others by his example to magnificent ends:—"Senza avere in alcuno atto animo o appetito ad alcuno acquisto di reami o di tesoro: ed avendo in singulare abominazione il vizio dell' avarizia; e dando di sé ottimo esempio a tutti nelle cose appartenenti alla magnificenza." The last paragraph deserves to be put in *italic*. We might almost suppose that Giovanni Boccaccio had penetrated the character of Giuseppe Garibaldi with as much truth as his master had described it.

It has been remarked by the Paduan editors, that if Dante ever intended Can Grande as the Veltro, it could not have been till 1318:—their words are "Solo in vicinanza di esso tempo pare che potesse Dante giudiziosamente azzardare cotale predizione." It was the position at that time of Can Grande which induced Dante to dedicate to him his poem; but the 'Inferno' was completed, as we have it now, several years earlier, and it is there where the character of the Veltro is given. It would appear that the application to Can Grande arose from his name *Cane*.

But in the days of Dante, and in those of the chronicler Giovanni Villani, the word *fello* had reference to another Cane, the Khan of Tartary. Villani, lib. v. cap. 29, having given a curious account of the people of Tartary, says that they elected "per divina visione loro imperadore e signore uno fabbro di povero stato, che avea nome Cangius, il quale in su uno povero fello fu levato Imperadore: e come egli fu fatto signore, fu soprannomato Cane, cioè in loro linguaggio Imperadore. Questo fu molto valoroso e saggio, e per suo senno e valenzia usci con tutto quel popolo delle dette montagne," etc. Boccaccio relates, that it was the custom with these Tartars at the obsequies of their Emperor to carry on a spear-head before the corpse a piece of felt (*fello*), and to proclaim that of all his great riches nothing remained to him but a piece of felt, for in this material his body was wrapt for burial.

Villani, lib. vi. c. 60, states that in 1254 the Khan of the Tartars became a Christian, and sent along with his brother, Aloon, an army of Tartars to take the Holy Land from the Saracens. When, having made the Caliph of Bagdad prisoner, Aloon

confined him in the chamber where he had collected his treasures of gold and silver and precious stones, telling him that these were to be his food ("*cibero e petto*"), and that he would have none other; so that he died of famine. On the death of his brother, Aloon became "Can Grande," and returned home. As we approach the period of the 'Divina Commedia,' the Emperor of the Tartars becomes a more prominent figure on the popular stage of Italian politics. In the very year of the poem, the then Emperor, according to Villani (Lib. viii. c. 35), took Jerusalem, and offered it to the Pope and the Christian Powers to hold, through his Ambassador, a Florentine, with whom Villani was acquainted. The offer was rejected; the Christian monarchs, says the chronicler, being too much occupied in their own particular wars to attend to it. An Emperor (a Cane) who had the spirit and power, thus unexpectedly to render the Christians a service abroad, and remove one scandal by rescuing the Holy Sepulchre from the profanation of infidels, might also be thought capable of rendering them another service, equally as unexpected, nearer home, and remove a still greater scandal by rescuing Holy Church from the profanation of a corrupt temporal head. Or at any rate, he was not an unfit type of one who should. It would appear also, even from the testimony of Boccaccio, that the Veltro of Dante was conceived of in the spirit and character of Cangius, the liberator of the Tartars, as related by the chronicler, and received at that time as genuine history. Between Dante and Villani there is often a remarkable correspondence in the relation of events, showing that both apparently had derived their information from the same source, and no unfrequently the chronicler shelters himself under the shield of the Poet, giving his authority as the confirmation of his own.

The meaning of the *Veltro*, however, must be determined by another symbol, the *Lupa*—this is the fundamental figure in the political sense of the 'Divina Commedia.' To the temporal tyranny of the Popes Dante ascribed the ruin of his country; ere Italy can be thoroughly restored to herself the temporal power of Popedom must cease; this is the great political principle running through the entire poem—to chase away this "maledetta Lupa," there must be the hunting dog, the *Veltro*. Under this figure, therefore, the Italian Hero is introduced.

Whatever coincidences may be found in contemporary history are but as secondary matters compared with this. Giuseppe Garibaldi, whose pride it is to be "a son of the people," is fully alive to the necessity of getting rid of the Italian Lupa; the spirit of the Veltro animates his thoughts no less than it guides and governs his acts;—and when retiring for a brief space from the arena in which he was the chief actor and the glorious Duce, his last words to the Italians were directed against this unclean beast:—"If I have acquired any merit with you, I have acquired that of telling you the truth frankly and without a veil. In using this privilege I tell you that your chief enemy is the Pope."—*Times*, Nov. 9, 1860. So it was with Italy personified in Dante, no less than with himself individually. The Pope was the chief enemy of the Italian people—"la bestia senza pace,"—and against this beast it was that the Poet entreated the assistance of Virgil:—

Velli la bestia, per cui io mi volai:

Aiutami da lei, famoio saggio.

Ch' ella mi fa tramor le vene, e i polsi.

Delivered from the *Lupa*, he cared comparatively little about the *Lione* and the *Lonsa*, for these were but the creatures of the former, and would disappear with it.

H. C. BARLOW, M.D.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Messrs. A. & C. Black write in contradiction of a report which is going round the press:—

"Edinburgh, Feb. 14, 1861.

"We are desired by Mr. Cobden to say, that he will feel obliged if you will contradict the report that he is preparing a publication on France, or any other subject. We have his letter, dated Algiers, Feb. 8, 1861. Trusting this communication may be in time for this week,

"We are, &c., A. & C. BLACK."

The Sub-Committee of the Hallam Memorial Fund, having examined the models sent in by various sculptors for a statue to be erected in St. Paul's, have unanimously selected the design of Mr. Theed, who will proceed with it at once.

We are glad to hear that the subscription towards Consul Petherick's Expedition up the White Nile is likely to attain to the amount necessary for the journey. Such a task could not be in safer hands. The lists already show contributions amounting to 1,000l.

Mr. Thomas Sutton has been appointed to succeed Mr. Hardwick as Lecturer on Photography at King's College.

The Queen and Prince Consort visited the Photographic Exhibition on Monday morning, and paid the collection the very unusual compliment of staying nearly an hour beyond the time fixed for their departure. It is no secret that the august visitors practise the art themselves. The Prince Consort is believed to have the best collection of photographs in existence.

We may mention that the London Stereoscopic Company are preparing for presentation to Her Majesty an album of portraits, which is to contain a gallery of three hundred of her most eminent living subjects—poets, historians, statesmen, artists and divines. Such of the specimens as we have seen are soft, brilliant and full of life.

A friend of the late Mrs. Gore sends us a few notes on the family of that brilliant and unknown personage. Mrs. Gore, we are told, was a Miss Moody, of East Retford, and her father was a partner with Mr. Carbonell, in the wine trade. We can imagine why the Author of 'Cecil' should have chosen to say little in her aristocratic circles of Mr. Moody, the wine-merchant in a small provincial town, and therefore why her maiden name remained in doubt even among her dearest friends. Mrs. Gore succeeded, it is said, to a good property, about eleven years ago, on the death of the Rev. Charles Raly, of Grantham, a cousin of her mother's. This inheritance would account satisfactorily for the ample style in which the deceased novelist lived, with little or no call on her pen, in the latter years of her life; about which ample and easy life there was more or less of an innocent and pleasant mystery always kept, encouraged, perhaps, by some whimsy of the lady herself for carrying plot and interest into the commonplaces of her own life. The family of Nevinsan is, our informant adds, well known at Grantham; they are not connected with Mrs. Gore.

A friend, who, more perhaps than any other man, lived in close intimacy with Dr. Bandinel, sends us for publication a few additional facts. The Rev. Bulkeley Bandinel, D.D., born in the year 1781, was the son of Dr. Bandinel, of Jesus College, the first Bampton Lecturer. He was educated at Winchester, emigrated to Oxford in the year 1800, where he was admitted Scholar of New College in the January of that year, took his degree of B.A. in 1805, M.A. in 1807, B.D. and D.D. in 1823. In 1810 he was appointed Under-Librarian by "Old John Price," then Librarian of the Bodleian, whom he succeeded in the autumn of 1813. This office he held with much credit to himself and great advantage to the library until last Michaelmas, when, feeling the infirmities of his age, and apprehensive of coming cold weather, he retired upon a pension cheerfully granted by the University he had served so long. During Dr. Bandinel's tenure of office the Bodleian was enriched by many bequests and gifts, but by none more than the splendid library of the late Francis Douce, the acquisition of which is entirely due to the courteous reception with which its owner was entertained by the late librarian. Indeed, Dr. Bandinel was uniformly courteous to all who wished to consult those treasures of which he was so justly proud, and never happier than in communicating to others out of those vast stores of varied information which he possessed. He was known to the literary world chiefly as one of the editors of the 'Monasticon,' and we believe as joint-editor of a Roxburghe volume, with his old and valued friend Dr. Bliss. Of the Roxburghe Club he was many years a member, and was a thorough admirer of the Althorp school. His own collections, however, were

limited to the latter period of the reign of Charles the First and the history of Archbishop Laud; in illustration of which he got together an enormous quantity of scarce and other tracts. Dr. Bandinel's death makes another gap in the circle of the old class of the social book-lover which is too rapidly dying out amongst us.

Mr. Edmund Oldfield has withdrawn from the Department of Antiquities in the British Museum. The Trustees have accepted his resignation. Although nominally an assistant to Mr. Hawkins, the late Keeper, it has been well known that Mr. Oldfield has for many years been entrusted with the absolute management of the Antique Sculptures in the Museum. It was his "fresh blood" that first drew out the ponderous Egyptian Antiquities, which were previously huddled up behind two great lions, without any regard to chronological or even intelligible order. The architectural improvements for the display of the Assyrian Sculptures were, if we mistake not, devised by him. The new Roman Gallery, with its appropriate decorations, and the Galleries of Antiquities on the upper floor, were all absolutely entrusted to him; and he contributed much to the improved arrangement of the Athenian Room. We have frequently had occasion to praise the manner in which the Temple Collection had been arranged, and to record in those instances the employment of rich colours and valuable materials in pedestals and backgrounds to set off fragmentary pieces, which otherwise the public would have almost entirely neglected. In earlier times, bare wood, common oil paint, and rough paving-stone, had been deemed sufficient. Continental refinement had been introduced, not to exclude, but in combination with, a still more rigid and correct historic and classic arrangement of the antiquities themselves. For these reasons, we record Mr. Oldfield's retirement from the Museum with regret, and trust that his attainments and sound judgment may be secured for the public in some other direction.

It appears that within the last twelve years the miscellaneous estimates have increased 2,225,000l. per annum. This is accounted for by the following seven votes:—Education, Science and Art, 930,000l. a year; ordinary public buildings, parks and works, 157,000l.; harbours, 127,000l.; extraordinary buildings, such as the Houses of Parliament, telegraphs and public works of that sort, 660,000l.; law, justice and police, 332,000l. (County-courts costing above 200,000l.); Consuls and diplomatic service, 75,000l.; superannuations, 89,000l.; packet-service, 400,000l.

Notwithstanding the severe winter, the Royal Horticultural Society held their first flower and fruit competition of this season on Tuesday last, in the Council Room in their New Gardens at South Kensington. The display of flowers and fruits was not very extensive or very showy. The chief interest of the occasion lay in the new Council Room itself being opened,—thus giving hope that the Society will be likely to accomplish their task of having the Gardens themselves ready to open on the 5th of June. The new Council Room is an exceedingly handsome, large and lofty room, lighted from the roof by a nearly flat ceiling of ground glass, and surrounded by beautiful terracotta pillars and mirrors. The arcades and other structures in the Gardens seem to be advancing with magical rapidity, and the *coup-d'œil* from the interior of the garden, even in its present unfinished state, gives promise of the greatest beauty.

"On looking lately over the October number of the list of new German books, appended to the monthly *Börsenblatt für den Deutschen Buchhandel*," says a literary friend, "I was so struck with the number of periodicals in the German language which I found chronicled as published in the United States of America, that I took the trouble of counting them, and found they amounted to no less than twenty-seven. The titles of many of them present a strange mixture of German and English; as, for instance, the *Farmer-Zeitung*, published at St. Louis, and *Gerhard's Zuverlässiger Banknoten-Reporter*, published at New York. Such productions as these can hardly be to the taste of a reader of classical German, but they have the bad effect of perpetuating and

propagating a mongrel jargon, which injuriously separates the population that speaks it from the bulk of the population around; and the recent unhappy contests on the subject of language in Schleswick and in Hungary, show to what deplorable consequences such a separation may lead. Let the Americans look in time to an increasing evil, which, if allowed to grow unchecked, may, at no distant day, rival slavery itself in its power of fostering and embittering dissension. The feeling of alienation with which a separate language causes the German emigrant in the States to look on his neighbours, is carefully nourished by some German writers, whose arrogant and conceited tone is singularly at variance with the traditional good sense and modesty associated with the German name. In an elaborate article on the Schiller Festival, which appeared in No. 89 of the *Stuttgarter Deutsche Viertel-jahrs-Schrift*, it is stated with much exultation, that that festival was celebrated by 'all the German colonies,' even 'where they dwell in the midst of the barbarians;' and the meaning is elucidated by reference to an oration which is given at full length, which was delivered on the occasion at Neulm, in Minnesota. The orator, after speaking of the Anglo-Americans as an inferior race, goes on to say—'A power has been ascribed to the Anglo-Saxon element, of suffering no other nationality to exist beside it. The Indian vanishes from the soil on which the Anglo-Saxon sets his foot; the French, the Spaniards, the Mexicans are Americanized as soon as they come in contact with the Anglo-American. In a few generations even the African becomes an American in all but his skin. Not so with us Germans. However long we may live among Americans, we retain the German manners and the German mind. I speak here of the great majority of the German people, without taking count of the few that may be found in the large cities, who, as soon as they can manage to speak a little English, grow ashamed of their German tongue and origin, and ape the Americans as far as they can. These sons of flunkeydom are but the exceptions, and the American discovers for the first time that there is a tougher element of nationality than his own. Finding that the German will not turn American, the American now begins to turn German—the meerschau pipe is not smoked by Germans only, nor is Lagerbeer the drink of Germans alone.' With pipes and beer a fashion 'may flourish and may fade,' without any serious or permanent damage being done; but if, for the sake of preserving one nationality, whether German, Welsh, or Norwegian, the unity of language in the great republic, or chain of republics, in North America were ever allowed to be broken, one of the great foundations of a hope for the superior civilization of the future would be irretrievably lost. It is the wish of all right-thinking Europeans, not merely of Englishmen, that the effect of the supremacy of one great language in Christendom should be fairly tried; and, as the affairs of the world now stand, the only chance of establishing such a supremacy which exists is for the language of Shakespeare and Milton, of Tennyson and Longfellow."

The sixth volume of the 'Correspondence of Napoleon I.' has appeared. It comprises the time of Bonaparte's consulship, the *coup-d'état* of the 18th Brumaire, the second war in the Vendée, the second expedition to Italy, Marengo, and the preliminaries of the Luneville treaty.

The Savile Manuscripts, which have been dispersed under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson during the past week, created quite a sensation among those persons interested in such literary treasures. The attendance was very numerous, and the biddings were of a most spirited character, as exemplified by the following high prices:—Historia Anglorum, by Henry of Huntingdon, an important manuscript, written by an English scribe in the twelfth century, 240l.; a Norman-French Poem, an Abridgment of Bible History, Sec. XII., 77l.; another Norman-French Poem, containing the Life of Christ, written a century later, 46l.; Norman-French Chansons, by an Anglo-Norman scribe, Sec. XIII., 150l.; Terrier of Lands relating to Yorkshire, circa 1473, 52l.; Reports of Cases tried at York, during the

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BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for an EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN DAILY from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 6d.

FRENCH GALLERY, 150, Pall Mall.—M. CORDIER'S ETHNOGRAPHICAL GALLERY of SCULPTURE, illustrating the most Prominent Types of the Human Race, OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s.

ROYAL COLLOSUM, Open Daily from Twelve to Four, and from Seven to Ten.—Admission, One Shilling.—The Celebrated Scotch Bell Players, in full Costume, will perform every Evening.—Popular Lectures, Musical Entertainments, Modern Magic, Dry-Hydrogen Microscope, Dissolving Views, Magnificent Diagrams of Lisbon, London and Paris, &c.

Dr. BACHHOFFNER, F.R.S., Sole Lessee and Manager.

POLYTECHNIC.—MR. RAMSDEN'S NEW MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT on OLD ENGLISH SONGS and BALLADS, every Evening at Eight o'clock. LECTURES on ASTROLOGY, illustrated by Spliced Diagrams, on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at half-past Two. All the LECTURES, DISSOLVING VIEWS, &c. continued. The Laboratory is open for Analysis and Students.—NOTICE.—The Institution is OPEN to the INDUSTRIAL CLASSES EVERY SATURDAY EVENING on Payment of SIXPENCE EACH, and the Directors are willing to negotiate with Schools and Religious and other Societies for the admission of numbers on the most liberal terms.

SCIENCE

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 7.—General Sabine, R.A., Treas. and V.P., in the chair.—The Earl of Ellesmere and Prof. Harkness were admitted into the Society.—Dr. Tyndall delivered the Bakerian Lecture, 'On the Absorption and Radiation of Heat by Gases and Vapours, and on the Physical Connexion of Radiation, Absorption and Conduction.' The lecture was illustrated by the apparatus used by Dr. Tyndall in his experiments.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Feb. 11.—Lord Ashburton, President, in the chair.—Vice-Chancellor Sir J. Stuart, and G. C. Bompas, C. Bonney, T. Combe, J. J. Cowell, P. Edwards, W. Fairbairn, J. Flem-

ing, W. Forsyth, W. B. James, H. Kyd, W. R. Sandbach, P. Sharp, and J. Simpson, Esqs., were elected Fellows.—The discussion on the North Atlantic Telegraph Papers, adjourned from last meeting, was continued.—'Further Details relative to the Discoveries in Central Australia,' by Mr. J. Macdonall Stuart.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Jan. 11.—The Rev. R. Main, President, in the chair.—J. S. S. Glennie, H. G. Bohn, P. E. Sewell, J. M. Stothard, M.D., E. J. Stone, and C. P. Mason were elected Fellows.—'On the Binary Star η Cassiopeæ,' by Eyre B. Powell, Esq.—'On the Three New Variable Stars, T Bootis, T Serpentis, and S Delphini,' by Joseph Baxendell, Esq.—'Results of Meridional Observations of Small Planets, and Phenomena of Jupiter's Satellites; observed at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, during the month of December, 1860,' communicated by the Astronomer Royal.—'On the Lunar Theory,' by Sir J. W. Lubbock, Bart.—'On Controlling Clocks by Electricity,' by Charles V. Walker, Esq.—'Abstract of his latest Results,' by Prof. Wolf; translation communicated by Mr. Carrington. Mr. Carrington called attention to the question of the determination of the figure of the sun, and suggested the measurement for this purpose of photographic pictures of the disc.

GEOLOGICAL.—Feb. 6.—L. Horner, Esq., President, in the chair.—W. R. Anceur, Esq. and T. W. Jeffcock, Esq. were elected Fellows.—The following communication was read:—'On the Altered Rocks of the Western and Central Highlands,' by Sir R. I. Murchison and A. Geikie, Esq.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 7.—The Earl Stanhope, President, in the chair.—E. B. Jupp, G. Harris, J. Fenton, and R. Mills, Esqs., and the Hon. F. Walpole, were elected Fellows; François Auguste Alexis Mignet, Membre de l'Institut, was also elected an Honorary Fellow.—Spencer Hall, Esq. exhibited drawings of three encaustic tiles from the Church of Sandhurst, Kent. One of these tiles bore the arms of the Etchingham family, whose history Mr. S. Hall has illustrated in a very elaborate monograph.—The Rev. C. Walcott exhibited, through the Rev. E. C. Walcott, various relics of the Walcott family. Among these may be mentioned, a piece of a scarlet cloak, stated to be a portion of that worn by Charles the First on the scaffold; the christening robe of the Walcott family; a warrant to H. Walcott to raise 5,000l. for the royal cause, signed by Charles the First, A.D. 1642; demand of a loan of 150l. from Humphrey Walcott, signed by Charles the First, A.D. 1643; discharge of Humphrey Walcott's sequestration by the Parliamentary Commissioners at Goldsmiths' Hall, 1649; and other documents connected with the same and other members of that family, e.g., a letter of L. C. Jeffries to John Walcott, with the very spirited answer of the latter indorsed thereon. Mr. Walcott also exhibited a very curious letter of Lord Herbert's (1744), giving an account of the movement in favour of the Pretender.—R. R. Holmes, Esq. read some remarks on a curious book exhibited by F. Slade, Esq., and consisting of a specimen of calligraphy of Esther English, or Anglois, or Langlois, as at different times she styled herself, and written at Lislebonne en Ecosse, A.D. 1599.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Feb. 11.—Mr. M. D. Wyatt in the chair.—The discussion of various stone preservative processes was resumed; and ultimately, on the motion of Mr. G. Godwin, V.P., seconded by Mr. Tite, M.P., the following resolution was passed unanimously:—'That the Council be requested to memorialize Her Majesty's Government, urging that a joint committee of architects, engineers, geologists, chemists, or other competent persons, be appointed to inquire into the various proposed modes of preserving stone from decay, with special reference to the present condition, causes and extent of decay of the stones of the Houses of Parliament; and that in the meanwhile no further large application of washes to the exterior of the building be permitted.'

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 12.—J. Gould, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. T. H. Stewart read some observations on the Anatomy of the Echinoderms, relating, in particular, to the apparatus possessed by some of the higher groups of this class of animals for the prehension and division of food, which appeared to have been previously unnoticed or imperfectly described.—Papers were read 'On some New Species of Butterflies, collected by Mr. Wallace in the Moluccas,' by Mr. W. C. Hewitson; and 'On a Rare Snake from Bokhara,' by Dr. W. Peters, of Berlin, Foreign Member of the Society.—The latter animal, which had been described by Prof. Brandt as *Taphrometopon lineolatum*, and by MM. Dumeril and Bibron as *Chorisodon sibiricum*, was stated to be nearly allied to the European *Calopeltis lacertina*.—Dr. Sclater made some additions to and corrections of his list of the Birds of the Falkland Islands (published in the last volume of the Society's *Proceedings*), founded upon the observations made by Capt. Abbott during his late residence in those Islands.—Dr. Sclater also exhibited, on behalf of Capt. Abbott, a Bull's Hoof, with an abnormal growth of the horny substance—a malformation stated to be not uncommon among the wild cattle in the Falklands.—Mr. Bartlett exhibited two pairs of living Hybrid Ducks from the Society's collection, which had been bred in Holland. They were the result of the union of the summer duck (*Aix sponsa*) with two of the diving ducks (*Fuligula ferina* and *F. myroca*), and exhibited clear traces of the species which had produced them.

CHEMICAL.—Feb. 7.—Prof. Brodie, President, in the chair.—Messrs. C. E. Bradnell and J. Davis were elected Fellows; and Messrs. E. L. Barret and C. Ulrich, Associates.—Papers were read by Prof. Field 'On the Basic Carbonates of Copper, Nickel and Cobalt,' and by Mr. A. H. Church 'On a New Acid obtained by the Oxidation of Benzol.' This acid stands immediately above the benzoic in the aromatic series of acids.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Feb. 6.—The President, Mr. J. Crawford, read a paper 'On the Races of Man.'

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 5.—G. P. Bidder, Esq., President, in the chair.—The discussion on Mr. Braithwaite's paper 'On the River Wandle; its Springs, Tributaries and Pollution,' was continued throughout the evening.—At the monthly ballot, the following candidates were elected:—Messrs. J. N. Douglass, W. G. Ginty, M. Lane, and P. J. Messent, as Members; Messrs. F. D. Banister, A. Bremner, T. Field, R. Hall, J. Kelk, W. W. Moore, H. A. Silver, E. H. Thorman and A. A. Wynne, as Associates.

PHOTOGRAPHIC.—Feb. 5.—Annual General Meeting.—The Lord Chief Baron was prevented from taking the chair in consequence of his late illness. C. B. Vignoles, Esq., V.P., presided.—The Officers of the Society were re-elected, together with the following new Members of the Council:—The Earl of Caithness, Warren De La Rue, Esq., Walter Hawkins, Esq., the Rev. S. R. Major, and T. R. Williams, Esq.—Mr. Hughes then read a communication 'On Albumenized Paper and Alkaline Gold Toning.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

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| Mon. | Royal Academy, 8.—'Sculpture,' Mr. Westmacott. |
| Tues. | Architects, 8.—'Effect of Gold Supplies on Foreign Exchanges,' Mr. Jourdan. |
| — | Engineers, 8.—'Results of Trials of Varieties of Iron Permanent Way,' Mr. Fox. |
| Wed. | Royal Institution, 3.—'Fishes,' Prof. Owen. |
| — | Society of Arts, 8.—'Alpaca, Australia,' Mr. Ledger. |
| — | Geological, 8.—'Coincidence between Stratification and Fossilation of Altered Rocks of Scottish Highlands,' Sir R. I. Murchison and Mr. Geikie; 'Relations of Strata of Scotch Highlands and of North of Ireland,' Prof. Harkness. |
| Thurs. | Naturalists, 7. |
| — | Royal Academy, 8.—'Painting,' Mr. Hart. |
| — | Linnean, 8.—'Moss of New Zealand, &c.,' Dr. Knox; 'Dipterous Insects of Gilo, &c.,' Mr. Walker. |
| — | Chemical, 8.—'Putrefaction of Bile, &c.,' Dr. Thudichum. |
| — | 'Bisulphide of Iodine,' Dr. Guthrie; 'Ground Ice,' Mr. Adie. |
| — | Royal, 8.—'Terphenylic Acid and its Derivatives,' Messrs. De La Rue & H. Muller; 'Generative Organs and the Formation of Egg in Annulosa,' Mr. Lubbock. |
| — | Antiquaries, 8. |
| Fri. | Royal Institution, 2.—'Electricity,' Prof. Tyndall. |
| Sat. | Royal Institution, 8.—'Platinum,' Prof. Faraday. |
| — | Royal Institution, 3.—'Inorganic Chemistry,' Frankland. |

FINE ARTS

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THERE are decided signs of improvement in the mass of the 650 works here over those exhibited for the last few years. It may be that some of the old contributors, seeing the lamentable state into which this gallery had fallen from its pristine state have determined, for the sake of old times, when it was creditable to have a picture here, that the last few years of its apparent existence shall not be quite evil. Would that the pictures were better hung! There is great reason for the strictures Mr. Frith has published, and another day we may perhaps return to consider this point. The lease of the premises expires in 1866, and after that the position, if not the continuance, of the British Institution is problematical, we understand. No one seems to send his best paintings. Sir Edwin Landseer's magnificently executed goat (No. 67, *An Offering*), which looks like a study for the 'Flood in the Highlands,' at the Royal Academy last year, is doubtless one of the best of these contributions. This shows a dead goat, bound, lying on a pyre of logs, from which the red flames are about to burst. It is needless to say the textures are admirable. Mr. F. Goodall exhibits the sketch for engraving, from his well-remembered picture of *Police Ballarín reciting Tusso to the People of Chioggia* (111). Mr. A. Solomon, by some chance, impossible elsewhere, has a very capital picture of Breton peasants examining an artist's work, which has been left unguarded in a cottage for a while, hung so high that we can only speak generally of its seeming to have good colour and expression beyond the painter's wont, — *Art Critics in Brittany* (20). Mr. H. O'Neill has a single figure, which looks mightily like a study for the *Shipwreck* picture, styled *A Lazy Girl* (196), — a slutish young woman who presents a not very agreeable subject for Art. The flesh is suitably dirty in colour, otherwise the work is coarsely masterful. — Mr. J. Gilbert will not lose reputation by *The Studio of Rembrandt* (169), which shows that artist painting one of those immortal portraits of his mother, indefatigable sitter that she was! The great master of the palette stands before his easel in all the heat of study, ardently painting, with eye and hand in tune. This work is characterized by all the passionate dash of Mr. Gilbert's best style. In the "property" accessories, the character, costumes and composition, he is heartily at home. In colour this picture is less antithetically treated with hot and cold than usual. On the whole, this is the best work we have seen for some years from his hand.

Mr. Gale sends three of his pleasant, conscientious, though somewhat academical, works. The largest, but least complete, is *The Sea-Shore* (100), — a little girl in a bathing-dress and sun-bonnet, standing on some rocks, with the emerald water behind. The face is admirable for *naïveté* and childish truth, most enjoyable for freshness and beauty. We only desire that the sea-weeds were not of so metallic a green, otherwise the sunniness and colour of the whole are charming. — *A German Flower Girl* (53) is a child very prettily and sweetly done; the background, some foliage, lacks the solidity which distinguishes the face. The third by this artist, is more complete than its companions, though smaller, — a chubby, rosy boy, in an Oriental dress, styled *A Little Eastern* (429). Mr. Calderon bears the bell here this year, with *The Return from Moscow* (543); — a tall French soldier, seated at a convent grate, through the bars of which his mistress, now a nun, embraces his hand joyfully, grateful for his return. One of his arms is bound in a sling, his face bronzed and haggard. The woman's face is too small, but its expression good. The tone and force of this picture make it prominently effective; its richness and vigour are more genuine than the somewhat forced effects the artist has hitherto exhibited. — Mr. Wyburd approaches nearer than usual to Mr. Frank Stone's manner with his picture entitled *Teresina* (52), a girl pacing through a graveyard. The face is less doll-like than heretofore with the painter; the accessories are more solid and genuinely

wrought. — His *Undine* (439) is very flimsy. — Mr. P. Levin's *The Vierlander Peasants—Love-spell* (90), a girl plucking the charmed branch to the old verse "He loves me not?—he loves me," is agreeable for the pretty taste and feeling of her expression as she turns gaily towards the lover who listens behind. Her costume is well painted. — Mr. Frost's *Narcissus* (121) shows the usual flimsy nymphs, &c., but the colour of their skins is dirty and dark. — Mr. E. Hopley has made something of a reputation by his pictures from ancient Egyptian history; this year Josephus serves him with a theme, representing Mariamne retreating with her children from the presence of Herod after accusation (504). There is a bitter agony and stifled pride in her face and hasty action, that deserve better work in the rest of the picture, which is somewhat paltry and tawdry. — Mr. W. Maw Egley's production shows considerable improvement in simplicity and treatment, being far less hard and ivory-like than before with him, though not quite free from those faults. It shows the loves of two pretty children, who are about to kiss through a hole in some garden palings, the girl standing on tiptoe while the boy peers through. The colour is sweet and fresh. Its title, *Pyramus and Thisbe: a modern illustration of an ancient fable* (592). — We imagine Mr. H. Weigall meant to rival the style with which Mr. Whistler surprised and delighted the artists last year at the Royal Academy, but the result is far otherwise in No. 616 here — *A Consultation*; two damsels concocting mischief, in a characteristic middle-class drawing-room. One leans an elbow on the mantelshelf, while the other, seated, unfolds the scheme. There is a showy pretension in this work that will win more popular approbation than it merits. The colour is inartistic and vulgar, the models too old for the motive of fun proposed. The wide difference between affected dash and mastery art cannot be better illustrated than by this and Mr. Whistler's work.

Mr. J. Hayllar is an artist of very unequal powers; here he has improved upon late productions with *Once a Week* (38) and *All the Year Round* (39). The first, a heavy-headed fellow asleep in his pew—the head well conceived and tolerably painted; the second, a knife-grinder at his wheel, — the violent red of his cap overthrows the whole work. By the same is, *Common Objects of the Country* (148), a rustic feeding a pig, varnishy and common. — Mr. G. Smith, urged by the merited success of his cradle subject here last year, sends another, in which he has paid more attention to the quilt than the expressions. The title, *Baby's Breakfast*, denotes No. 9 well enough, which is inferior in every respect to its precursor. — Mr. C. Rosseter's *The Snowball* (56), three urchins rolling a ball of snow, is clever and much varied in expression. Two other pictures are less praiseworthy. — The best of the humorous pictures is by Mr. E. Davis, *Coaxing* (59), a little girl coaxing her grandfather; the expressions are excellently done, that of the old man quite a fresh study, which, considering the theme, must be taken for high praise; the colour is too vulgar and dingy to do this capital work justice.

— *The Wife of the Water-Carrier trying on the Jewels* (210), from Irving's 'Tales of the Alhambra,' by Mr. A. F. Patten, is spirited. — Mr. J. Ritchie's *The Young Chief's Bridal-Dowry* (245) is poor, "Frenchy" and common-place. — *Rus in Urbe* (271), Mr. E. C. Barnes, a card-sharper scene, notwithstanding its vulgarity, has character. — Mr. T. M. Joy has borrowed the theme, and miserably failed to attain the execution, of Mr. Frith in his double pictures styled, *Travelling*; *Past and Present* (298). — Mr. F. B. Barwell's works are honestly and well done to a degree which redeems their somewhat painty blackness of hue. — *An Anxious Moment* (307) does not quite, to us, tell if the lady, who presses eagerly the hand of a gentleman issuing from a sick room, be the wife or mother of the sufferer within, or, indeed, if the gentleman be a parson or physician. The shameful hanging of this picture may mislead our observation, and account for this. — *Little Sweetheart* (489) is better seen, and does the artist credit. — We should admire above everything Mr. E. Nicol's work, *A Chiroprapist* (464), for character and humour, if it were not hideous for the fidelity with which he has treated a

revolting subject. A cobbler, knife in hand, operating on an unlucky man's foot, has caused pain enough to make him fall back, writhing in agony; a boy watches the scene; the sufferer's wife, whose expression is really a triumph of success, looks anxiously on. Putting away one's painful disgust, which is the highest compliment the artist must aspire to, this picture is a marvel.

Mr. Ansdell has a picture of two mules, an ox, a man, a woman and a steeple, styled *Serile* (1). *The Tag-shepherd* (5), by Mr. F. W. Key, an old man keeping sheep on the downs where he guarded them as a boy, has pathos of subject and honest execution. The last may be repeated of his deer, *A young Hero* (209). — Some rabbits — *At the Doubtful Breeze Alarmed* (309), by Mr. Luker, are well done. — Mr. G. Lance's pictures of Fruit (37, 104, 127) present nothing new. — Miss Stannard, if she attains more richness of colour, will surpass all painters of the like amongst us. Her *Fruit, painted from Nature* (202), being very solidly and carefully wrought. — Mr. Duffield has the like fault and promise. His *From the Hill-side* (348), a study of game, &c., is truthful, broad, bold, and solidly but coldly painted. — Mr. T. Danby has a dreamy landscape styled *The Sunny-side* (46), very pretty but unsubstantial. — *A Pergola at Amalfi* (49), Mr. Talmage White, tells well with its autumn-tinted vine drooping over the roadway. This subject is so beautiful that almost every one treats it well. — *Harvest* (73), Mr. H. Dawson, displays a marked improvement in force, surface and colour. Some meadows, traversed by a river flashing with sunlight from a rift in the sky, are overlooked by an upland field just reaped, wherein stand loaded wains and golden shocks of corn heaped upon the barred furrows; at the end of a road a group of airy elms. This artist appears to be losing the peculiar, objectionable sand-papered textures of his practice hitherto. No. 110, *Sunset at Sea*, will find plenty of admirers. — Mr. J. Holland has a masterly sketch of *Arcade, Genoa* (128). — Mr. F. S. Cary's *Interior of an Old Workshop* (232) has potency of tone and solid-looking work in it. — *London, from the Thames, in 1861* (339), Mr. J. Danby, although over green, is not without fitting grandeur of suggestiveness. — Mr. E. Lear has painted the lonely, ruined rock-fortress of Judas Maccabeus and Herod, *Masada, on the Dead Sea* (349). From the lofty cliff looking over the plains of death and the Dead Sea, the *débris* sloping to the crest, the stark, craggy rock, all glaring in the sun, purple-bloom of far-off levels, and wall-like mountains of Moab, that shut in the horizon, are all shown in a bold, strong, if somewhat hard and flat manner. — Mr. C. P. Knight's landscape, *Hayle Harbour, St. Ives Bay* (484), looks, also, at first hard and flat, and chilly withal; but a longer observation weakens one's impression, and wins praise for a manly and literal work. — Among the noticeable pictures should be included Mr. Dillon's "La Dent Blanche, Valais" (176). — Mr. G. Pettitt's *Sunshine and Showers, Rydal Water* (293). — Mr. Hayes's *Dumbarton Rock* (228), — and Mr. Melville's *For the Dockyard* (397), horses dragging timber through a wood.

FINE-ART GOSSIP. — The depressed condition of the Royal Academy Schools has at length attracted the most serious attention of the Academicians. A special meeting of the body is called for Tuesday next, to consider this subject. It is no longer denied, even by the infallible Forty, that the schools — behind the merits of which they affect, in all public reports, to shelter themselves against all adverse criticism — have been falling away in efficiency from year to year. The fact shows itself in every exhibition of the students' work; and, indeed, the failure is so conspicuous, that those who would naturally prefer to let the public believe their system and their teaching perfect, are compelled, in very shame, to announce the results of their own neglect by refusing to award the gold medal or send a student to Rome. This evil is now eating into the heart of the Society. Are the Stanfields and Mulreeds to have no successors? If the present system of teaching, praised as it has been by the defendant Academi-

cians, fails to give us gold medallists, where shall we hope to find our future Friths and Wards? This evil seeks a remedy, and the Forty will on Tuesday meet to discuss, and perhaps to discover, it. The French Exhibition will open this year earlier than usual,—the 9th of next month being named for the private view.

Mr. Woolner's bust of Prof. Sedgwick is being exhibited in the vestibule of the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Amongst recent additions to town architecture we may notice the offices of the Promoter Life Assurance Company, opposite St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, as an agreeable change from the horrid and dingy monotony of London houses. This is notable for some, not very bold, attempts at colour by employment of marbles in panels on the surface and red granite shaftings. For want of a better name, it may be styled Byzantine in design. On the ground floor are three circular-headed openings,—one the doorway; these are divided by short and broad shaftings of polished granite, with low, carved capitals of stone; the keys of the arches are also carved, bearing a cornice of dentils traversing the front; in the spandrels are polished slabs of red and green marble; above are three ovals of the same, surrounded by a cartouche. The pilasters to the next floor are flat, with carved caps,—the windows circular-headed as before; the centre key only is carved, and boldly projecting sustains the advanced framing of the middle window of the third range. The spandrels between differ from those below, being deeply carved in stone and, we surmise, undercut. On either side of the above-named middle window is a slender shaft of polished granite, detached, with finely-carved capital as before. In the roof are dormer windows, in the round heads of which are set panels of coloured marble.

Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin are bringing out a "superior" edition of their 'Illustrated Family Bible'; the superiority consisting in the paper on which it is printed. This, no doubt, should produce in a better manner the engravings it contains, and, no doubt, such would be the result if the blocks did not appear, in the example before us, to be considerably worn. The subjects of these are of very mixed character. There is scarcely a page without a woodcut upon it, either of historical illustrative theme, landscapes from localities mentioned in the text, or natural productions having the like claim upon our interest. The two latter classes are, considering the popular nature of the scheme of publication, well executed, picturesque, and in many examples highly interesting. A view of Mount Ararat, rearing its white crest against the sky, with a solemn line of poplars traversing the plain in front, has considerable artistic merit; the same may be said for the representations of the banks of the Jordan, the Dead Sea, and Rachel's Tomb. Some, even, of the first-named class of designs are not unworthy, as 'The First Musical Instrument'—a group of antediluvians, listening to a pipe;—and 'Hagar and Ishmael cast forth.' Here, however, our praise of the series as works of Art must stop. We are not favoured with the names of the artists from whose works these subjects are taken; some appear to be original; but in those we recognize the sources of, we have occasion to regret that better known and infinitely more noble models have not been selected; it is just as easy to engrave a Raphael as an Albano, a Ghirlandajo as a John Vanloo,—therefore why the lower rank of painters, men seldom filled with the true spirit of Art, is almost wholly adopted, is strange. We observe that the whole range of Early Italian and German painters, men pre-eminent in devotional subjects, is ignored. Now, this is really a fatal omission. The publishers have missed an opportunity of doing a good thing, creditable to themselves, and likely to be of benefit to popular taste in Art. What the circulation of the edition must be to make it "pay" may be surmised from the fact, that for a shilling we have a quarto of forty-eight pages, really beautifully-printed in double columns, with marginal notes a few—and very complete cross-references to other portions of Holy Writ.

The Times states that a movement is on foot to

restore the ancient Market Cross, at Edinburgh, which was removed from its original situation in the High Street, about a century ago. Scott's 'Marmion' has made this edifice poetically famous,—the murderers of James the First of Scotland were executed at its foot. In 1617, when James the Sixth visited Scotland, the Cross was removed, to make room for the procession which then took place. A new Cross, in a Debased style, was then built, which existed till 1756. The only fragment of the ancient Cross is the centre pillar, which has remained in obscurity for above a century on the estate of Drum, and was recently offered back to the city by the proprietor. A sketch of the proposed restoration has been prepared by the city architect, Mr. Cousin. It will be an octagonal structure of open Gothic columns supporting a balcony, from which the Scottish heralds will read the Royal proclamations, and in the centre of which will stand the old pillar surmounting the unicorn rampant bearing a St. Andrew's cross.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. Cooke.—On FRIDAY NEXT, February 22, will be repeated Haydn's Oratorio, THE CREATION. Principal Vocalists: Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Weiss, with Orchestra of nearly 700 Performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, at the Secretary's Office, No. 6, in Exeter Hall.

MESSRS. KLINDWORTH, H. BLAGROVE, and DAUBERT'S FIRST CONCERT.—TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, at Home Eight.—Händel's Messiah, Trios, Beethoven's 1st. Op. 70, and Schumann in F, Op. 80; Sonata, Piano-forte and Violoncello, Chopin, Op. 65; Chaconne, Violin, Bach. Vocalist, Miss Banks. Programme illustrated by A. A. Manger. Tickets at Craner's, Ever's, Schott's, Chappell's, and Bette's Music Warehouses.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison, Sole Lessees.—Production of Auber's 'Le Domino Noir,' Balfe's 'Stancella.'—MONDAY, Feb. 18, at 8.—Soprano, Miss Louisa Pyne, Mr. W. Harrison, and the Royal English Opera Company.—On TUESDAY, the 19th, and during the week, Auber's 'LE DOMINO NOIR,' the Words adapted by H. F. Chorley, Esq. Misses Louisa Pyne, Leffer, Thirwall, Huddart, Morrell, Messrs. Henry Haigh, H. Corri, St. Albans, Horn-castle, Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—A NEW BALLER DIVERTEMENT, Mlle. Lamoureux, Madame Pierron, M. Vandrie, and the Corps de Ballet.—In preparation, a New Opera by Howard Glover, 'Ruy Blas.'—Commence at Seven. No charge for Booking. Seats at 10s. 6d. each, at the Managers, Mr. Edward Stirling; Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Murray.

FATHER KEMP'S OLD FOLKS' CONCERT COMPANY, SECOND WEEK, from America, consisting of Thirty Ladies and Gentlemen, with their New England Orchestra, all of whom will appear in Costumes of One Hundred Years ago, and render, in their unique, peculiar and popular style, songs of Ancient, Sacred and National Airs.—Enthusiastic reception of Emma J. Nichols, the favourite young American Vocalist.—ST. JAMES'S Hall, Piccadilly, Every Night during the Week, at Eight.—Morning Performances on Wednesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—Admission: Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—Tickets may be had of the principal Music-sellers and Librarians, and at Austin's Ticket-Office, 35, Piccadilly.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.—Monday evening's experiment—the production of Prof. Longfellow's 'Hiawatha,' in the form of selections from that poem, read, interspersed with music by Herr Stöpel,—is not one to be dismissed in a line and a half. Mistake is better than monotony. Till managers, artists and public can be disabused of the Chinese fancy of preferring something like the last "hit" to the chances of a new one—till the *prima donna* will be content in the new opera without her final *rondo*, when reason for *rondo* is none—till the tenor will "tackle to" his part, though it contains no second-hand "Light of other days"—till the public will exercise independently its powers of judgment, and when a new opera is produced not trouble its mind that evening about 'Don Juan' or 'Il balen,' as may be,—Art, with all our pretensions and progress, will remain in a lame, one-sided plight; and any aspirant after that which is real, fresh and courageous, will lose hope;—because he is obliged to conform to the powers that rule, to the artists that won't, or to the publishers that buy. Therefore, all honour to those who venture!

It was a daring venture, though, to try the 'Song of Hiawatha' at Covent Garden Theatre. The subject is remote—the incidents are poetical and mysterious; the poem, lovely as it is and full of wild pathos, is thickly sown with names of a sound which might easily excite ludicrous associations. These things of themselves are so many difficulties when an audience is to be faced who follow the legend without previous preparation, or, with the book in hand.—But, supposing such obstacles surmounted, the question arises, how far is 'Hiawatha,' as here arranged, eligible for musical illustration?

Our reply would be, "not very far":—first, because of the unbroken nature of the metre, which flows

Regular as rolling water;

—secondly, because the story in its progress lingers so long over emotions of the same colour, that he must be a skilled composer indeed who could give the contrast and variety demanded. Two fantastic dances, for instance, here succeed immediately one to the other; after them follows a series of lugubrious movements. Thirdly, the recitation, which is much too long, and might be retrenched by a good third, if not more, to advantage.—As matters stand, the poetry and the music are in equal duel. In a work of this kind, one or other must predominate, or the impression is one of perpetual unsettlement and discomfort.

Of Herr Stöpel's music we think favourably. Possibly the peculiarities of his subject, above hinted at, may have hampered him more than he was aware; especially if he be not much used to "laying out" a composition. If nowhere new—his share of the work is nowhere inelegant.—It contains two fair tenor songs, (the second in particular); a *trio*, which did not produce its due effects for a reason presently to be stated; the same may be said of the Death Song of Minnehaha, No. 13. The Beggar's Dance, if accompanying part of a scene in a *ballet*, would come out grotesque. There are good indications in the Chorus of Ghosts, No. 12,—and here and there pleasing orchestral effects.—The full sound is generally clear; and this is always promising in the case of a comparatively inexperienced writer.—On the whole, we have hope of Herr Stöpel, supposing he were to try his fortune in some work easier to be expressed in or garnished with music.

Next, as to the execution. Miss Matilda Heron, who read the connecting extracts from the poem, is a lady of some experience and as much sensibility,—which latter told in more than one passage on her audience. But she reads too much in a monotone, and, as it were, by a metronome, set to a very slow tempo.—Her task might have been fulfilled with far more colour and variety. Prof. Longfellow's verse, though regular, is not more regular than Corneille's. Who can forget how Rachel broke up his interminable tirades, so as to conceal the uniformity of the lines, to work the emotion up to a climax, or to hold the listener breathless by a sudden change of note?—This, Miss Heron never did, save in one brief passage. The rest was too melancholy, too pathetic, in a high key—too uniform: whether the line ended with ejaculation or inquiry, the end of the line was always the same.—The singing lady, Madame Palmieri, had not altogether mastered her music, and was not correct in her words. This is inexcusable in one called on to sing, as she was, from a book. We regret that she has failed to justify the favourable opinion which her *début* in 'Il Trovatore' excited.—The gentlemen were Mr. St. Albans, whom we have never heard sing so well, Mr. Wallworth and Mr. Henry Corri.—The orchestra and chorus were in good order.

Lastly, as to the reception of the work. It was not warm; but the audience was patiently attentive throughout, without sign of dissent—even a mixed theatrical audience; and the final vote of approval passed unanimously. Could the drawbacks to which we have adverted be amended, we are satisfied that 'Hiawatha' might produce double the effect, especially if given in a smaller locality. But we have more trust in our playgoing public than it is the fashion to entertain; recollecting how it flocked to see the 'Antigone' (in spite of the unintelligible performance of Mendelssohn's chorus), and how it has accepted two plays as far out of the stereotyped pattern as 'Ingomar' and 'King René's Daughter.'

LYCEUM.—A new drama, in three acts, entitled 'The House on the Bridge of Notre Dame,' and translated by Mr. Rophino Lacy, from the French of M. M. Theodore Barrière and H. de Kock, was produced on Monday, with complete success. It is one of those melo-dramas in which the principal *artiste* appears in two characters, and astonishes by the suddenness and abruptness of the changes; Madame Celeste acts the part of Ernest de la Garde,

heir to an estate, who is on his way to Paris from Martinique, and Zamboro, a wandering gipsy, who personates him after his supposed murder. These situations give rise to an ingenious enough plot, in which the *Chevalier de Forquerolles* and one *Rigobert* play the part of two villains,—the one principal, the other his subordinate. The latter endeavours to circumvent his employer; but both are defeated by the astuteness of a lawyer's clerk, *Pettiso* (Mr. John Rouse), who cunningly contrives to set them by the ears. Pieces of this sort convert a defect of histrionic representation into an excellence, and turn a difficulty into a triumph. Twice is Madame Celeste killed in the presence of the audience; and no sooner is the body disposed of, than she again appears in the opposite character. The *Chevalier* is, at the opening of the play, an inveterate drunkard, whom, in consequence of his vices, his brother, by his last testament, disinherits in favour of Ernest, his wife's son by a former husband. The poor boy is, accordingly, waylaid at a road-side inn, and provoked into a duel with the *Chevalier*; who then orders the supposed dead body to be deposited among the faggots in the cellar, and the house to be set fire to. No sooner is all this done than the gipsy boy enters; and *Rigobert*, struck with his resemblance to Ernest, arranges with him the plot for possessing themselves of the *Forquerolles* estates. In a subsequent act, the likeness even confounds the perceptions of love; for *Melaine de St. Ange* (Miss Kate Saville) accepts the impostor at once as the real Ernest, and is only undeceived when he proposes an arrangement inconsistent with his fidelity. She then scrutinizes him with the aid of a candle placed close to his face, and sees that while the identity of the features is wonderful, "the look is different." Having thus proved herself to be a capital judge of expression, she takes her measures accordingly, and pursues the impostor to the chateau, in order to expose the deception. But fate has been before her. Zamboro, repenting of his fraud, has excited the anger of *Rigobert*, and been shot; but is enabled to reach the family mansion, and dies on the sofa. While yet the body lies in the presence of the audience, the real Ernest enters, having been preserved by *Pettiso*, who had witnessed the whole of the fatal transaction at the wayside inn. In the third act, the house on the bridge, which gives title to the piece, is presented; and the action and dialogue goes on inside in different apartments and on the two floors, as well as outside, thus repeating an effect which was found so popular in 'Jonathan Bradford.' We suspect that public taste has changed since the days of Fitzball's youth; and therefore, that no special attraction will result from this stage-set;—nevertheless, the scene is cleverly managed, and will aid in its degree the popularity of the performance. Much credit is due to Miss Saville for the manner in which she acted the passionate scene with Zamboro; and Madame Celeste was all herself both in Ernest and in his "counterfeit presentment."

PRINCESS'S.—On Monday, the amusing play of 'Don Cesar de Bazan' was revived, and Mr. Fechter appeared in the character of the bizarre hero. His conception of the part is altogether more chaste than our audiences have been accustomed to. He has not to redeem Don Cesar from that extreme amount of degradation in the first instance which most performers appear to have considered needful for the sake of contrast. He therefore rises with more ease to the dignity of his position when he asserts the rights of man, and the privileges of a noble, in controversy with a dissolute monarch. He is well supported by Miss Maria Harris, who performs the part of *Lazarillo* with tact and vivacity. The revival was completely successful.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Here, and not in a review, may the *Musical Directory, Register and Almanac for 1861* be noticed. The above words would suffice for the purpose, had not the Preface to this, the ninth, issue of the Almanac included a flourish of trumpets in self-glorification. The work has been held back, it is stated, to make

the list of new publications complete.—Well; no reader will be able to ascertain from the list printed that last year were published three English operas, 'Lurline,' 'Robin Hood' and 'Bianca.'—It is true that it has not yet been thought worth while to include the production of these original works in the list of musical works of 1861, nor to tabulate the proceedings of English opera at all!—though the programme of every pupil's concert at the Royal Academy is given.—So, again, the publication of 'Dinorah' with English words, of Gluck's 'Iphigenia in Tauris' and 'Armida,' need never have taken place for aught the reader will find about it here.—The list of Professors' addresses has not been corrected.—In the provincial chronicle, the Glasgow Festival (at which Mr. Horsley's 'Gideon' was produced) has no place; nor the four Gluck Concerts at Manchester.—To return to London: there was no music, so far as we can make out, at the Crystal Palace! There were no Popular Concerts;—no meetings of Mr. Hullah's upper schools, nor of Mr. Henry Leslie's choir.—In brief, with much pretension, this 'Directory' is very defective, clogged with useless matter, and not correct. It would not be difficult to supersede this with a far more compendious and better work.

'Fra Diavolo' was advertised for last night at Her Majesty's Theatre, with Mr. Swift as hero and Mdle. Parepa as heroine.

A concert was given, successfully, we read, at Exeter College, Oxford, on the 11th in aid of the Hullah Fund.

The remarks in the *Times* of Monday last, following its report on the Crystal Palace Concert of this day week, may be earnestly recommended to all givers of instrumental concerts. We may well think them excellent, coinciding as they do with opinions which this journal has never ceased to advocate: in encouragement of experiment and research among the works, if not of new, at least of known, masters. The ample list of compositions given by our contemporary, the names of whose writers should secure them a respectful hearing, might be quadrupled at a moment's notice. We are glad to see attention drawn to this point. Much is it to be wished that the Philharmonic Society would apply the counsels of our contemporary ere it perish in the dullness of reiteration.—The Crystal Palace Concert to-day, under the title of 'Past and Present,' promises a Symphony by Haydn and overtures by Handel, Mendelssohn and M. Berlioz.—M. Vieuxtemps is to play; and Mr. Baker, a new tenor singer, to make his first appearance.

Being unable to review the work, we may mention, that Mr. H. Leslie's 'Hollywood' has just been published by Messrs. Addison & Co.

When our English unacquaintance with the compositions of Herr Stuntz was mentioned, the following fact, recalled to us as under by one of our most accomplished living English musicians, had slipped from memory:—

"Your observations on the compositions of Herr Stuntz, of Munich, recall to my mind the circumstance of my performance of one of them at the second concert of the Philharmonic Society in the year 1836. It was a song, presented to me by my late acquaintance, the renowned J. B. Cramer, and it was introduced at the concert at his especial recommendation, with the addition of his warmest eulogies of the merits of the composer, whom he had then recently known in Germany. The MS. is still in my possession; and although bearing the evidence of an accomplished musician, it does not offer any attraction to the notice of the general public.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

"ELIZABETH MASSON."

That time-honoured place, Astley's Amphitheatre, is to be disposed of by auction on the 27th of this month.

It turns out that 'La Circassienne,' the newest opera of MM. Scribe and Auber, is the one some months ago announced as 'Faublas.' That announcement warned us that the veteran dramatist was about to tread on delicate ground, as he has more than once delighted to do, apparently for no other purpose than to show how adroitly he could treat subjects which need never be treated. *Double entendre* should have no place in any dramatic work—in one for music least of all.—Of late it has been put about that the coming confection was a setting of the pathetic story of the *Chevalier d'Aydie* and Mdle. Aisé; but this proves a mis-

take; and the work has merely been re-baptized.—The story, so far as we can follow it in analysis, appears as absurd as it is disagreeable.—The music, by M. Auber, is praised in the *Gazette Musicale* with faint praise.—A Madame Numa is about to appear at the Opéra Comique.—At the Théâtre Lyrique, M. Clapisson's opera, 'Madame Greigore,' to a book by MM. Scribe and Boisseaux, is said to contain heavy music to a lively story of the days of Madame Pompadour. Both theatres seem to have fallen into the leaden age.

One hundred and eighty plans for the Grand Opera House that is to be, by French, German, Italian and English architects, have been sent in, and are now exhibited at the Palais d'Industrie in Paris.—None, it is added, has been selected.

Interest seems to be growing in Prussia and Saxony for the instrumental music—the reader will never guess of whom—absolutely Handel. His "Fire-work" and "Water-music"—his *Oboe Concerto* have been performed—and the journals assure us, thoroughly well received.

A Symphony by M. Abert, the young German composer whose name has been mentioned in this journal more than once, is about to be performed at a concert given by the enterprising "Société des Jeunes Artistes" in Paris.—The music of 'L'Oca del Cairo,' Mozart's unfinished opera, is about to be performed for the first time by the members of the "Sing-Academie" at Magdeburg.—The prize of fifty florins, annually offered by the *Tonhalle* at Mannheim, is this year opened to competition for the best choral composition for the voices of men. The text is put forth. The date of award is May-day.—Berlin journals forwarded to us are strenuous in praise of Mdle. Artot: one enthusiast goes the length of asserting that her *Amina* in 'La Sonnambula,' is only by a hair's breadth less admirable than Mdle. Lind's *Amina*, which, it may be recollected, was thought Mdle. Lind's best character.—The music of 'Camacho's Wedding'—Mendelssohn's opera, written when he was a boy, was performed as concert-music in December last, at Frankfurt.

Madame Ristori is expected in Paris early in March, and intends to play in French at the Odéon Theatre, in a new play by M. Legouvé.

MISCELLANEA

Statistics of the Russian Press.—Last year there existed in Russia, exclusive, however, of Poland and Finland, 310 periodical papers: of these, 142 appeared at St. Petersburg; 45 at Moscow; 10 at Riga; 11 at Dorpat; 10 at Odessa; 8 at Kiev; 6 at Tiflis; 5 at Wilna; 5 at Cronstadt; 4 at Milan; 4 at Kasan; 2 at Charkow; the same number at Perm; Perna; Woronesh; Irkutsk; Theodosia; Cherson; Yaroslavl; 1 at Libau and 1 at Revel. Besides these, an official paper appears in every one of the 66 provinces. 230 of these periodicals appear in the Russian Language; 38 in German; 29 in French; 5 in Armenian; 2 in English; 1 Shipping Reports; 3 Lithuanian; 2 Esthlandish; 1 Georgian; 2 Russian-French; 2 Russian-German; 1 Russian-Lithuanian; 1 Russian-Esthlandish; 1 Russian-Polish; 1 Russian-Hebrew; 1 Hebrew-German; 1 Russian-French-English (which has already ceased to appear), and 2 in Russian-French-German. Twelve of these periodicals appear daily; 2 four times a week; 7 three times a week; 3 twice a week; 99 once a week; 2 three times a month; 12 once a fortnight; 64 once a month; 16 every two months; 9 every quarter; 6 once a year. Fourteen of the papers are devoted to theology; 8 to pedagogy; 3 to State, or national, economy; 13 to history; 7 to geography and statistics; 2 to languages; 8 to belles-lettres; 5 to bibliography and literature; 16 to the science of medicine; 16 to natural sciences; 6 to the science of war; 3 to mathematics; 13 to art and mechanics; 23 to technology and agriculture; 14 to industry, trade and mining. All the rest are encyclopaedians.

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